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CONTENTS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Verification Methods Meet Arms Pact Needs *[Chernyshev in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 28 May]* 1
Army Chief Akhromeyev on START Negotiations *[Paris LE FIGARO 28-29 May]* 2
Karpov Interviewed on Nuclear-Free Zones *[East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG 28-29]* 3
Further on UN Special Session on Disarmament 5
'World Today' Shows Missile Destruction 5
Academician Sadovskiy on Nuclear Blast Detection 6
More on Visit to UK Gas Warfare Center 7

WORLDWIDE ISSUES

Gorbachev Sends Message to Physicians' Congress 8
Dobrynin Meets With International Delegations 8
Music Festival Sends Appeal to Reagan, Gorbachev 8
Shevardnadze Receives Railway Union Members 8
Further on Nonaligned Session in Havana 9
Shevardnadze Sends Greetings *[PRAVDA 28 May]* 9
Meeting Concludes 9
Communique Reviewed 9
European Parliamentarians Close Session 10
Discussions at North Atlantic Assembly Viewed 10

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

United States & Canada

Butkov Views Nancy Reagan's Public Role *[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 2 Jun]* 11
Kamentsev Confers With U.S. Businessmen *[PRAVDA 1 Jun]* 11
Cooperation Agreement Signed 11
Dobrynin Receives ASTEC Cochairman 12
Abalkin Comments on Soviet-U.S. Ties 12
More Muscovites See U.S. Ties Improving *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 31 May]* 13
'World Family' To Welcome U.S. Visitors *[PRAVDA 28 May]* 13

China

Volskiy Reviews Factors Favoring Asian Security 14
Need for Trust Stressed in Relations *[Alekseyev]* 15
USSR-PRC Views on Disarmament 'Very Close' *[Mulatov]* 15
'Critical Stage' of PRC Reform Noted 16
Sinologists Meet PRC Veteran Revolutionaries 16
Chinese Envoy Yu Hongliang Visits Kiev *[Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY 20 May]* 17
Harbin Trade Delegation Visits Khabarovsk 17

Near East & South Asia

TASS Rounds Up Recent Events in Afghanistan 17
Roundtable Meeting Held on Afghan Situation 18
TASS Analyst on Implementing Geneva Accords *[Biryukov]* 18
Kornilov Comments on Pakistani Political Events 19
Trade Prospects Discussed With Egyptian Firms *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 27 May]* 19
Baghdad Conference on Persian Gulf Concludes *[PRAVDA 29 May]* 20
IZVESTIYA Views Role of U.S. Cruiser in Gulf *[31 May]* 20

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political & Social

Former Azerbaijan Officials Expelled From CPSU *[Baku]* 21
Armenian Industrial Accident Causes Floods 21
Yakovlev, Dolgikh Yerevan Activities Reported 21
Arrival 20 May *[Yerevan KOMMUNIST 21 May]* 21
Tour Enterprises *[Yerevan KOMMUNIST 22 May]* 22
Calls for Strike, Violence Denounced *[Yerevan KOMMUNIST 23 May]* 22
Nagorno-Karabakh Television Station Opens 23
Final Day of Supreme Soviet Session Summarized *[IZVESTIYA 27 May]* 23
Supreme Soviet Presidium Voting Discussed 24
Zaykov Presents Award to Zelenograd 25
Vorotnikov Visit to Buryat ASSR Detailed *[IZVESTIYA 22 May]* 25
Election of Conference Delegates Continues 28
Latvian Plenum 28
Estonian Plenum 28
Sakhalin Obkom Plenum Releases Tretyakov *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 28 May]* 28
Conference Delegate Sagdeyev Interviewed 29
'Secrecy' at Party Aktiv Meeting Deplored *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 29 May]* 29
Course of Conference Delegate Elections Viewed *[PRAVDA 1 Jun]* 30
'Backstage Games' Over Delegates Deplored *[LITERATURNAYA GAZETA 25 May]* 31
Readers Discuss Party Conference Delegates *[SOVETSKAYA KULTURA 7 May]* 31
Creation of Official 'Opposition Center' Urged *[SOVETSKAYA KULTURA 2 Jun]* 34
'Extraordinary' CPSU Congress Proposed *[SOVETSKAYA KULTURA 2 Jun]* 34
Belorussian Central Committee Plenum Held *[SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA 14 May]* 34
Families Allowed To Emigrate After Summit *[AFP]* 35
'Greens' Movement Formed in Estonia 35
Ukraine Church Reestablishment Urged *[Vatican City]* 36
News Conference Held on Church Millennium
[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 25 May] 36
Commission To Probe Brezhnev Era Suggested *[ARGUMENTY I FAKTY No 22]* 36
Analyst on Employment, Relocation, Retraining *[Prokhorov]* 36
Decree on Improving Veterans' Care Viewed 37
New Draft Penal Code Formulated 37
Horrors of Polar Labor Camp Life Recalled *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 17 May]* 38

Military

Protection of National Borders 'Restructured' *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 27 May]* 41
Draftees Offered Intensive Russian Program *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 26 May]* 42
Military Leaders Sign Retired General's Obituary *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 31 May]* 44

Verification Methods Meet Arms Pact Needs

PM3105141588 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 May 88 Second Edition p 5

[Article by Candidate of Technical Sciences Colonel V. Chernyshev under rubric "From the Standpoint of the New Thinking": "Verification Problems: Difficulties and Solutions"]

[Text] The problem of arms reduction and limitation holds a very important place in the broad range of world political problems. The agenda includes the questions of achieving a 50-percent reduction in Soviet and U.S. strategic offensive weapons while strictly observing the ABM Treaty, eliminating chemical weapons, introducing a total ban on nuclear arms tests, and reducing conventional arms and armed forces in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals. The achievement of accords largely depends on how successful we are in solving the problems of verification in application to each of these issues. I would like to share some thoughts with readers on this score.

For a long time, the verification problem has been primarily a political problem. It was usually the case that, at all talks on arms reduction and limitation, the volume of monitoring proposals put forward by U.S. and other NATO countries' representatives considerably outweighed the proposed arms reduction measures. Verification had become an aim in itself, and proposals in this connection were most often designed to artificially retard progress at the talks. This circumstance was a clear impediment to the achievement of any accords.

At the same time, it must be admitted in all honesty that for a long time our side took a negative attitude to certain verification measures. The problem was interpreted as follows: We cannot allow the other side to penetrate our state's military sphere, which is highly sensitive with regard to security. Far-reaching monitoring measures, particularly on-site inspection, were regarded exclusively as the legalization of espionage and a practical means of penetrating our secrets. The Soviet Union proposed to rely mainly on national technical means of verification. This furnished anti-Soviet propaganda with the means to play on the theory that it was Moscow that was holding back progress at the talks.

The revision of our approaches to security problems begun 3 years ago on the basis of new political thinking could not fail to affect the Soviet Union's attitude to verification. We have had to abandon a considerable number of firmly established stereotypes in order to get things moving again. We have had to make bold political decisions. As early as Geneva, during the 1985 Soviet-American summit meeting, M.S. Gorbachev told Soviet experts: We must change our attitude to verification because our persistent proposal to ensure verification by national technical means alone is alienating a great many people in the West. The question now is whether we are going to continue to give them the opportunity to speculate on the so-called "closed nature" of our society or on the fact that we allegedly need verification less than the other side.

As a result of revising our traditional approaches, our ideas on the aims, role, principles, forms, and methods of verification and monitoring have broadened considerably. When the Soviet Union proposed the use of international forms of verification, including on-site inspection, to monitor the implementation of disarmament accords, the people who had previously accused our country of all the mortal sins suddenly found themselves in the position of the "emperor with no clothes." In a number of cases, they proved unprepared for this kind of far-reaching verification.

It seems to me that the Soviet Union's present conceptual, philosophical approach to verification problems can be formulated as follows. First, only full, all-around verification, as an integral part of any disarmament measure, can be a reliable guarantee of security. Second, by dispelling suspicion and prejudice, full, comprehensive, all-around verification is a decisive factor in establishing trust. Third, if any action giving rise to doubt can be monitored, everyone can be confident that obligations are being strictly fulfilled. This means that the actual edifice of arms limitation and reduction will stand firm. Proceeding from all this, the USSR favors not only dual but triple verification, if it is really a question of a genuine arms reduction process.

But how do things stand with the U.S. stance on verification? Under the influence of the new Soviet views, it too has changed recently. But one can still discern "remnants" of the old thinking. In some cases, only tactics are being revised, rather than the fundamental approach. Another striking fact is that Washington is now clearly reluctant to go as far regarding on-site verification as the USSR is proposing. For example, the Soviet side went considerably further than the U.S. side on verification issues when the sides were drawing up the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-and Shorter-Range Missiles. To be fair, it must be said that eventually, thanks to the constructive attitude displayed by both sides, a mutually acceptable solution was reached. As a result, the treaty is something really new in the verification sphere and guarantees the confidence of both sides that the pledges enshrined in it will be strictly honored.

In some cases, when Washington is reluctant to embark on the reduction and limitation of some classes of weapons, it refers to the "complexities" of verification for these particular arms. In particular, at the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons in Geneva, the American side still persists in claiming that verification of air-launched and particularly sea-launched long-range cruise missiles is impossible.

There is no doubt that it is impossible to evolve a universal verification system that is equally acceptable for all disarmament treaties and agreements. Adequate, appropriate verification measures have to be carefully and scrupulously selected for each of them individually. At the same time, I feel, universal components—the "bricks," so to speak—that are suitable for any verification system, which have already been found or are in the process of being found through joint effort, are positive achievements.

The Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles contains a number of such "bricks." It has opened up technical possibilities regarding verification that are suitable for other treaties and agreements. Verification measures enshrined in the treaty include the exchange of information, notification, and six forms of on-site inspection.

Experience in drawing up verification measures applicable to the process of eliminating intermediate- and shorter-range missiles can be used to the full when preparing other treaties and agreements, such as a treaty on a 50-percent reduction in strategic offensive weapons. It was agreed at the Soviet-American summit meeting in Washington that, while developing the provisions of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles—with the aid of which it will be possible to monitor fulfillment of the provisions of the future treaty to limit and reduce strategic offensive weapons—other verification measures must also be developed. These will include, in particular: the exchange of information on locations and installations for the production and final assembly, storage, testing, and deployment of systems covered by this treaty; constant on-site surveillance of the perimeter and access points of the most important production and auxiliary installations in order to confirm the volume of production at these installations; the conduct of inspections at short notice at sites where systems covered by the treaty still remain; and also inspections at sites where either side has reason to suspect the secret deployment, production, storage, or repair of strategic offensive weapons.

For its part, the Soviet Union aspires to a creative approach to drawing up verification measures. In particular, it has proposed its own scheme for the verification of sea-launched long-range cruise missiles, which incorporates a range of methods: establishment of quantitative limits on missiles, long-range verification of the presence of nuclear missiles on ships, verification at sites where missiles are equipped with nuclear charges, and the inspection of submarines and surface ships. Similar versions have been proposed for air-launched cruise missiles and mobile ICBM's.

I would like to draw attention to two more new features in the development of measures to verify future agreements. First of all, there is the joint approval of verification measures by the sides involved in the talks. In particular, in the process of full-scale bilateral talks concerning the problem of nuclear testing, the Soviet and U.S. representatives at the Geneva talks have drawn up and initialed the text of an agreement to conduct a joint verification experiment at U.S. and Soviet test sites in Nevada and Semipalatinsk. Preparations are currently being made for this experiment. Moreover, the internationalization of efforts in this direction and the involvement of the maximum number of states could be of great assistance in the creation of reliable verification measures for arms limitation, reduction, and elimination. Verification to show that nuclear test explosions are not being carried out could be an international process, for example. It would include on-site inspection and creation of an international system of seismic and radiation verification.

The internationalization principle is used in the proposals to verify that weapons are not being taken into space, which the Soviet Union has submitted for discussion at the disarmament conference. They envisage the formation of an international space inspectorate whose task would be to verify whether objects stationed in space constitute weapons or are equipped with weapons. They also envisage the permanent presence of inspection groups at all sites for launching space installations as well as inspections at agreed depots, industrial enterprises, laboratories, and test centers.

All the above demonstrates the great potential that exists for effectively verifying the fulfillment of commitments concerning arms reduction and limitation. Wherever the use of one verification method proves inadequate, a whole range of methods and different means could be created that would guarantee each side full confidence in the mutual observance of the treaty pledges they have made.

Now it is not a question of the actual technical complexities of verification—complexities which do undoubtedly exist—but of the political will and real desire to strengthen security, stability, and mutual trust through joint effort.

Army Chief Akhromeyev on START Negotiations

PM0106134088 Paris LE FIGARO in French 28-29 May 88 p 3

[Interview with Marshal Sergey Akhromeyev, Soviet Armed Forces chief of staff, by Pierre Bocev and Denis Legras in Moscow; date not given—first two paragraphs are LE FIGARO introduction]

[Text] There was a development in the START strategic arms negotiations yesterday. The interview with Marshal Sergey Akhromeyev had been going on for 45 minutes when an aide-de-camp, impeccably dressed in his black naval uniform, approached the Soviet Armed Forces chief of staff and handed him a piece of paper. There were a few hastily scribbled words on it which nobody could decipher. The marshal put on his glasses and paused. "Excuse me," he said, "I am wanted on the

telephone. Duty calls...." and he left, with his aide-de-camp and interpreter following him. "It is connected with the talks which Mikhail Gorbachev will have with President Reagan," he said before he left the room, a small reception room on the first floor of an annex to the General Staff headquarters.

We were given another appointment for 2 hours later. The USSR's first deputy defense minister, who was punctual again, took his glasses out of an old leather case and consulted a file; his 11 rows of decorations, just below the Order of Lenin, added a colorful touch to his khaki uniform. What had happened?

[Question] What can you tell us about the call which interrupted our interview?

[Akhromeyev] It was connected with the Geneva negotiations. You see, questions are constantly being raised. The working day never ends; it goes on continually. I obviously cannot tell you what it was about, but we are trying to ensure that what I have just learned will be good news. It certainly seems that we have the solution to one of the problems in the Geneva negotiations. Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev will discuss this point.

[Question] What issues are still an obstacle to a 50-percent reduction in the superpowers' strategic arsenals?

[Akhromeyev] We made considerable progress in the 6 months which followed the Washington summit. We are close to an agreement on lower ceilings for ballistic missiles (the maximum number of missiles and warheads allowed on both sides on ground-based and submarine-based intercontinental missiles).

We have made definite progress on the question of mobile missiles (intercontinental missiles pulled by train or truck instead of being installed in concrete silos). This might be the first problem to be solved. The two sides are virtually in agreement on having some such missiles once there is a 50-percent reduction in ballistic missiles. The number of delivery vehicles and warheads which will be allowed is now being discussed in Geneva. There is also progress on and a better understanding of the respective positions in the sphere of air-launched cruise missiles.

But there are still two very complicated questions: cruise missiles based on ships or submarines, and the link between offensive strategic weapons and the 1972 ABM Treaty (which limits ABM defenses and is, therefore, a curb on the U.S. "Star Wars" plans).

Secretary of State George Shultz said that the U.S. delegation would come to Moscow with new ideas on these subjects. I am confident that we will make progress at the Moscow summit.

Withdrawal From Afghanistan [subhead]

[Question] What lessons have you learned from 8 and 1/2 years of war in Afghanistan?

[Akhromeyev] The troops were sent in at the Afghan Government's request. We are not in favor of this kind of action. But our contingent never took part in large-scale military operations. There were three missions—to protect the Afghan-Pakistani border against counterrevolutionary infiltration, to maintain our own soldiers' lines of communication and supply, and finally to defend their camps and installations—moreover, the topography of Afghanistan, with its mountains and the scarcity of roads, is such that a large-scale military operation is impossible.

[Question] What is the future of military contacts between the United States and the USSR?

[Akhromeyev] During the Washington summit, I was invited to the Pentagon. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci saw General Yazov, our minister, in Bern in March. They will meet again at the Moscow summit next week. Preliminary talks on my visit to Washington are in their final phase, as are preparations for a visit to Moscow by the U.S. under secretary of the Air Force. We have sent Admiral Crowe, chairman, U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, a program of contacts for the next 2 years.

Relations between the military in the two countries only began at the Washington summit. That provided an opportunity to have formal talks and to try to understand the other side's position. In Bern, Secretary Carlucci did not make a very good interpretation of the explanations on the defensive nature of our doctrine. We will do our best to convince him this time.

Karpov Interviewed on Nuclear-Free Zones
AU0106175888 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 28-29 May p 4

[Interview with Viktor Karpov, chief of the Problems of Arms Control and Disarmament Administration of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, by BERLINER ZEITUNG correspondent Roland Heine in Moscow: "Guarantee for Nuclear-Free Zones"; date not given]

[Text] BERLINER ZEITUNG: How important does the USSR consider nuclear-free zones as a part of the general efforts for disarmament?

Karpov: The USSR consistently advocates the establishment of nuclear-free zones in various regions of the world on the basis of voluntary agreements between the states of the respective regions. It considers such zones as an important measure to reduce the danger of a nuclear war, to geographically restrict preparations for a nuclear war, to consolidate the regime of nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, and to create a climate of trust and security at the regional level. All this would, without doubt, contribute to eliminating nuclear weapons all over the world. Mikhail Gorbachev's statement of 15

January 1986 deals in essence with turning our entire planet into a nuclear-free zone. Therefore, we accord very great importance to regional measures aimed at this.

Proceeding from this principled position, the USSR signed and ratified the second additional protocol to the Treaty of Tlatelolco. As one of the first nuclear powers, it also signed and ratified the second and third additional protocols to the Rarotonga Treaty.

BERLINER ZEITUNG: What would be the specific use of a nuclear-free corridor in central Europe?

Karpov: In our view, the question of establishing nuclear-free zones in various regions of the European Continent is particularly topical because here the concentration of armed forces and armaments is nowhere else as dangerous as here. The level of nuclear confrontation is very high, and the risk of accidentally starting a nuclear war is very high, too. Therefore, we support the idea of establishing nuclear-free zones in northern Europe and in the Balkans, and we are also in favor of establishing a 300-km corridor in central Europe that is to be free of all kinds of nuclear weapons and free of heavy weapons in general.

Concerning central Europe, the USSR supports—as is known—the appeal of the Governments of the GDR and the CSSR to the FRG Government to start negotiations on establishing a nuclear-free corridor in central Europe. The USSR imagines that all nuclear ammunition and nuclear weapons would be withdrawn from this zone, including the so-called "dual capable systems."

The "Jaruzelski Plan" is also aimed at liberating central Europe from nuclear weapons—a great foreign policy initiative by Poland, which was submitted last year in a memorandum from the Polish Government. The plan applies to nine central European countries. It envisages the step-by-step withdrawal and reduction of all kinds of nuclear weapons and of certain types of conventional weapons that have to be agreed on, first of all, those with a particularly high destructive power and attack capability. Its implementation would be an extraordinarily important step toward consolidating European security.

BERLINER ZEITUNG: In the West, one often hears the argument that the USSR as a "continental power" would gain unilateral advantages from such a zone in central Europe. What do you say to this?

Karpov: This hypothesis is unfounded, both from the military and from the political or geographical viewpoint. Under conditions of approximate overall parity, as have emerged in Europe between the Warsaw Pact and NATO, it is not just one side that benefits if there is no longer direct contact between nuclear armed forces and other offensive troops, if they are distanced sufficiently. In every case, the benefit here is bilateral as, thanks to such measures, the probability of a deployment of nuclear weapons is considerably reduced and material preconditions are created to give a defensive character to the opposing military groupings and enable further-reaching steps of arms limitation and disarmament to be undertaken.

BERLINER ZEITUNG: Which guarantees would the USSR give to nuclear-free zones in Europe?

Karpov: As is known, the USSR has stated that it will never use nuclear weapons against states which renounce their production and procurement and do not store nuclear weapons on their territory. We are ready to conclude special agreements on this with each one of those states. At the same time, the USSR is prepared to undertake the commitment not to use nuclear weapons against countries which become a party to nuclear-free zones.

The USSR has declared its readiness, in the event of the realization of the proposals of the GDR and the CSSR on establishing a nuclear-free corridor in central Europe, to withdraw all Soviet nuclear weapons from the region and to guarantee and respect the nuclear-free status of that zone. The precondition is naturally an agreement that NATO also will not retain any nuclear weapons in the corridor proposed by the GDR and the CSSR.

The USSR has also stated its readiness to give all necessary guarantees in the event of the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans.

Similarly, the USSR is prepared to act as the guarantor of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe and to consider important measures on its own territory which would contribute to the strengthening of its nuclear-free status. It is prepared to discuss the issues of a nuclear-free Baltic with interested parties.

BERLINER ZEITUNG: On 20-22 June, an international conference on nuclear-free zones will take place in Berlin. What does the USSR expect of this conference?

Karpov: The GDR's initiative in convening this international meeting arouses great interest. We see the importance of the conference in the fact that it enables the problem of establishing nuclear-free zones to be seen from every aspect and a broad dialogue to be started on this between the representatives of various countries and political views. We hope that discussions on the entire complex of nuclear-free zones will help us analyze fully the experiences made so far.

In our view, the most important point is, however, that the comprehensive exchange of experiences in Berlin can enormously stimulate the movement to free large areas of Europe from nuclear weapons.

Further on UN Special Session on Disarmament
LD0106094888 Moscow TASS in English 2251 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] New York June 1 TASS—The U.N. General Assembly opened its third session on disarmament at the U.N. Headquarters on Tuesday. This important event in the international life, said U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, fortunately coincides with the dialogue, under way in Moscow between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan, including on the issue of reducing nuclear strategic offensive weapons. This historic event confirms the topicality of the special session of the U.N. General Assembly. It underscores the global responsibility of leaders and representatives of the states that gathered at the U.N. Headquarters in defining the course of agreed-upon worldwide action for disarmament.

Hopeful changes took place on the international arena recently, he said. The resumption of constructive dialogue between the USSR and USA, which declared that a nuclear war could not be won and must not be unleashed, led to the conclusion of an intermediate-range nuclear forces treaty, which provided graphic proof that, given the political will, agreements were possible on reversing the nuclear arms race with reliable verification measures. The major achievement, which puts the arms reduction talks on a new plateau of confidence and practical implementation, would be an agreement on a 50 per cent reduction of strategic offensive weapons.

Perez de Cuellar pointed out that those welcome events, which opened up new prospects, were designed to signify the beginning of nuclear disarmament on the basis of joint efforts of all states. Reduction of nuclear arms, the armed forces and conventional weapons, the conclusion of a convention on the complete ban and destruction of chemical weapons, prevention of the arms race in space and termination of nuclear tests must have top priority in the cause of disarmament.

At the first meeting delegates of the special session unanimously elected Peter Florin, of the GDR, as its president. He pointed to the change for the better in the international situation, to movement on the path of nuclear disarmament owing to the signing of the Soviet-U.S. intermediate-range nuclear forces treaty. The Soviet-U.S. summit meeting, currently under way in Moscow, provides fresh evidence of the possibility of achieving agreements which would facilitate the solution of issues facing the U.N., will give fresh impetus to holding further talks.

Florin stressed the special importance of ending the nuclear arms race and ensuring nuclear disarmament. He expressed the hope that the special session of the General Assembly will give each member of the international community an opportunity to contribute to solving the tasks concerning the fate of mankind, to continue a dialogue on the political and military aspects of a comprehensive system of international peace and security, will provide a forum for constructive efforts of the U.N. aimed at curbing the arms race and oriented on concrete actions.

The participants in the special session endorsed its agenda, which includes the current international situation in the light of the vitally important task of ending the arms race and the urgent need to achieve definitive progress in disarmament.

General debate will start on Wednesday with the heads of the delegations at the session setting out the views of their countries on vital issues.

'World Today' Shows Missile Destruction
LD3005183388 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 30 May 88

[From "The World Today" program, presented by Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Text] Now, comrades, you can acquaint yourselves for the first time with some unique pictures, on the experiment for the practical destruction of the first consignment of Soviet missiles at the test site near the settlement of Saryozek in Kazakhstan. Here for your attention I present an extract from a television film prepared by the Kazakhstan TeleFilm studio.

[Begin viderecording] [Unidentified correspondent] Saryozek, the name of this small settlement in Kazakhstan is now becoming familiar to many.

Shorter-range missiles, which are known in the West as SS-12 and SS-23, have arrived without their warheads here in Saryozek, their place of liquidation. [video shows vehicle being positioned under casing held by crane; two uniformed men issuing directions; casing being lowered on to carrier]

[Unidentified officer, addressing soldiers standing to attention] [Word indistinct] hear this order. The division column is ordered to move on the route of the technical territory to explosion point no 2. Distance between vehicles: 50 m. Speed for each vehicle: 30 km per hour. [video shows one soldier climbing aboard a transporter; one loaded transporter on the move]

[Correspondent] This Kazakh steppe has seen many different convoys in its history. But I would call the convoy which will now be appearing along this road on arms convoy on its final journey. The missiles have covered a long route from Czechoslovakia and the GDR. [video shows transporters moving in convoys, two helicopters in flight]

And here is the test site, where arms will not be tested but be destroyed. Here is Colonel (Stanislav Dmitriyevich Pitarenko), head of the control center for the elimination of shorter-range missiles:

[(Pitarenko)] Checking of the whole technological chain in the elimination of the missiles has been carried out in the process of the exercises, from the moment of their unloading right up to the moment of elimination. The crews dealing with the preparation of missiles on the military ranges and their explosion have been trained very thoroughly. [video shows casing being removed from one transporter; two missiles, a casing being removed by crane; a site with one covered transporter; another casing held by a crane]

[Correspondent] Missiles at the explosion site—experienced sappers are filling them with packages of explosives. They are also having to engage in such work for the first time. For the first time in history, weapons are being destroyed, not because they have grown obsolete and can be replaced with new ones but precisely because they have not grown obsolete. It is not simply these or those combat units which are being destroyed but a whole class of weaponry. There are no U.S. observers here yet; they will appear after ratification of the treaty. In the meantime, test exercises are being held. [video shows two missiles beside a crane; four soldiers inserting explosives into tubes at base of missiles]

Colonel General Kovtunov, commander of the Central Asian District, have arrived at the test site. Also here are military and technical specialists and representatives of local party and soviet groups. [video shows a helicopter, and a group of about 12 persons standing nearby; four missiles on ground]

[Unidentified speaker] First, ready. second, ready. First, fire! [video shows open land and an explosion]

[Correspondent] Here is Colonel (Viktor Borisovich Leshchenko) from the missile elimination control center:

[(Leshchenko)] Control measurements and samples taken by specialists from the soil at the site of the explosion and from the cloud of the explosion on board helicopters have shown that the content of harmful substances is below the maximum permissible norms. That is, one can draw the conclusion that the exeuction of the whole range of work designated by the treaty on the elimination of shorter-range missiles by the method of explosion will, in fact, have no harmful influence on the environment.

[Correspondent] And the best confirmation of that is these people in the crater, which has not yet cooled down after the first explosion. [video shows five uniformed men standing in a crater, and about a dozen men in conversation]

This is all that remains of the dreadful launch vehicle [video shows him pointing to large metal object] And so, the first arrow of fear has been broken and destroyed. Here in Kazakhstan, at the Saryozek test site, our country is again demonstrating its desire for peace, hoping for good sense on the part of politicians of all countries. [video shows correspondent standing on a hillside; another view of an explosion] [end recording]

Well, comrades, as we have seen, preparations for the destruction of missiles have been carried out. It is possible to set about the actual deed.

Academician Sadovskiy on Nuclear Blast Detection
LD2805195388 Moscow TASS in English 1329 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 28 TASS—Soviet-American experiments on the monitoring of underground nuclear explosions by seismic methods have convincingly proved that the problem of control over the non-conduct of nuclear test can be regarded as resolved. This is the opinion of Academician Mikhail Sadovskiy who heads the Institute of Physics of the Earth under the USSR Academy of Sciences. He gave an interview to TASS ahead of the Soviet-American summit in Moscow.

Earlier opponents of the treaty on the banning of underground nuclear explosions explained their stand by difficulties of control. Tests conducted by Soviet and American scientists at a Soviet nuclear test site near Semipalatinsk and in Nevada, U.S., convincingly showed that the existing methods ensured the monitoring of explosions even of a small capacity—about one kiloton.

Academician Sadovskiy believes that only a number of technical problems remain to be resolved. They are connected with the creation of a monitoring network with four centres in Moscow, New York, Canberra and Stockholm fitted out with satellite communication equipment. On the whole, principles of the creation of this system have been coordinated, although some differences still remain. Thus, the Soviet side believes that it is possible and sufficient to use a simple and convenient seismic method for evaluating the capacity of the monitored explosions. American specialists insist on the use of their method that requires the instalment of equipment in a specially drilled well near the site of an explosion.

Although the American method has a major defect (it does not ensure the accuracy of measuring the strength of small-capacity explosions—under 10 kilotons), the Soviet side does not object to its use along with the seismic method. Academician Sadovskiy pointed out that the Soviet method permitted to measure the capacity of an explosion with an error of up to 20 per cent even for small charges of about one kiloton.

In conclusion the Soviet scientist said that the 30-year-long history of the nuclear test ban problem started in Geneva in 1958 makes one believe that the main obstacle on the way to concluding an agreement to this effect is a lack of political will on the part of the U.S.

"The monitoring technology is continually developing, and one cannot rule out a possibility of the creation of a more sophisticated equipment by the time the type of the monitoring system is finally chosen. This process can go on endlessly. This is why it would be reasonable to reach agreement today on the discontinuation of nuclear tests and to exercise control with the help of existing instruments", Academician Sadovskiy pointed out.

More on Visit to UK Gas Warfare Center

LD2905164188 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 29 May 88

[Report by correspondent Vsevold Shishkovskiy]

[Text] The British press is commenting widely on the visit by a group of Soviet experts to the secret British military-chemical Porton Down establishment which has ended. This visit was carried out in accordance with an accord between the USSR and Great Britain.

The very fact of such a visit is being assessed here as an important step in strengthening the trust which is necessary for the success of the talks on concluding a convention on a complete and universal ban on and on the destruction of chemical weapons which are now taking place in Geneva.

The commentaries stress that the forthcoming return visit by British experts to the similar Soviet establishment at Shikhany at the end of next month will make it possible to deepen even more the trust and mutual understanding between our countries. This was also repeatedly pointed out by the participants in the news conference which took place at Porton Down, where Soviet experts spent 3 days. This is what was stated by Yuriy Nazarkin, the leader of the group and head of the USSR delegation at the disarmament conference in Geneva, when addressing journalists:

[Begin Nazarkin recording] I would like to note that the discussions which took place during the visit to Porton Down were held first of all from the point of view of the search for a resolution of outstanding questions at the talks on banning chemical weapons. For, in discussing various technical aspects, we first of all sought to find ways which can be used at the talks for working out a system of verification for the destruction of chemical weapons, that is to say, for the aims being pursued in the convention on banning chemical weapons which is being worked out in Geneva.

Ahead lies the return visit by a British delegation to our military-chemical establishment at Shikhany. Until recently it was quite impossible to imagine that Soviet specialists would be able to visit your military-chemical establishment in Porton Down and that Western representatives, including British ones, could find themselves at Shikhany and that the gates would be opened to them there. I think that it is through these open gates at Porton Down and Shikhany where lies the path which can bring us a world without chemical weapons, a world without mass destruction weapons. [end recording]

Gorbachev Sends Message to Physicians' Congress
LD0106173988 Moscow TASS in English 1727 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 1 TASS—Mikhail Gorbachev has sent a message of greetings to the 8th Congress of the International Movement Physicians of the World for the Prevention of Nuclear War.

"I am convinced," he wrote, "that the aim and practical activity of your movement accord with the vital interests of mankind, which strives to rid itself of the horrendous burden of nuclear arms, to build a safe, non-violent and just world, and this is the source of your movement's high international reputation."

It is exactly these tasks that the USSR is setting itself in international affairs, Mikhail Gorbachev noted. At the Soviet-American summit talks in Moscow we strove to bring closer their attainment.

Dobrynin Meets With International Delegations
LD3005194088 Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 30 TASS—On instruction from General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Anatoliy Dobrynin had today meetings and conversations with the following delegations:

Of the international children's anti-war organisation "Birds of Peace," headed by T. Otto, member of the organisation's leadership.

Of the international centre for peace among nations of the City of Assisi, Italy, headed by G. Costa, the centre's president.

Of the Women's International Democratic Federation headed by Frieda Brown, WIDF President.

Eleonara Romberg, president of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

L. Cardozo, vice president of the World Federation of Democratic Youth.

Representatives of foreign public conveyed the texts of messages and appeals addressed to Mikhail Gorbachev, expressed their wishes in connection with the Soviet-American summit in Moscow. They spoke about the many-faceted and vigorous work conducted by broad circles of the world public for the sake of the prevention of nuclear menace and the survival of humanity, and definitely declared in support of the efforts of the Soviet leadership aimed at the construction of a nuclear weapons-free and non-violent world.

Anatoliy Dobrynin cordially thanked foreign representatives for good wishes and emphasized that the removal of the threat of a nuclear war, sane solution of global problems facing humanity, the ensurance of the further progress of civilization is the purpose of all countires and peoples. The awareness of interrelationship of the world of today, of the urgency of the measures for the elimination of nuclear weapons is the essence of new approach to international affairs, the essence of new thinking.

Vigorous actions of the public forces, people's diplomacy is also a characteristic feature of the present. The Soviet leadership shows much attention for the opinion of the international public as a source of valuable initiatives, a source of moral support for the policy of peace and cooperation, Anatoliy Dobrynin said.

Music Festival Sends Appeal to Reagan, Gorbachev
LD3005153488 Moscow TASS in English 1509 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] Leningrad May 30 TASS—Participants in the third international music festival in the USSR sent today an appeal to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Musicians from sixty countries, gathered in Leningrad for their international festival, the message says, warmly greet the Moscow meeting of the leaders of the two great powers.

"Music for humanism, for peace and friendship between peoples" is the motto of our festival. Each day works of representatives of different continents are heard here, each day people from different nations meet here. We are united by the desire to understand and to knows each other better, to make our contribution to peace and understanding between peoples.

We appeal to you, the leaders of the USSR and the United States, to make every effort to shield the world from a nuclear conflagration, to prevent the end of civilisation. Let there always be music on the earth—a hymn to good, beauty and humaneness.

Shevardnadze Receives Railway Union Members
LD2905153588 Moscow TASS in English 1444 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 29 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, received today a group of trade union activists, members of the Presidium of the 9th International Seminar of Unions of Railway Workers held in Moscow. It was attended by representatives of 56 organizations from over 40 countries.

On behalf of participants in the seminar the guests handed in a letter addressed to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in which they wished him success at his talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Eduard Shevardnadze expressed gratitude for that initiative. He pointed out that the active participation in the trade union movement in world politics reflects the strengthening trend towards the democratization of international relations.

Further on Nonaligned Session in Havana

Shevardnadze Sends Greetings

PM3105132588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 May 88 Second Edition p 4

[Undated message from USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze to Nonaligned Movement Coordination Bureau session on Disarmament Problems; venue not stated]

[Text] To the participants in the session of the Nonaligned Movement Coordination Bureau on Disarmament Problems:

I greet the participants in the Nonaligned Movement Coordination Bureau devoted to disarmament problems.

The nonaligned countries' efforts, in particular the well-known decisions of the Harare summit conference, in favor of achieving a nuclear-free world and disarmament are of exceptionally great importance for strengthening the positive trends in international affairs. The first-ever meeting of representatives of the movement's countries especially to discuss these problems coincides with a crucial period in mankind's development—the beginning of the practical realization of the new political thinking.

An awareness of the political realities that have come into being and of the world's growing interdependence promotes the increasingly active and concrete involvement of all countries—great and small, nuclear and non-nuclear—in the elaboration of ways and means to switch to a safe world. Under these conditions there is considerably broader potential for cooperation between nonaligned and other states in the normalization of the world situation and the joint search for solutions to difficult international problems.

We note the broad support by the world community, including the nonaligned states, for the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles and the talks on the 50-percent reduction of strategic offensive armaments. The task now is to make the process of disarmament, above all nuclear disarmament, irreversible and constantly deepening in character, to completely remove the threat of nuclear war, and to ensure security on the basis of consideration of the balance of interests of all groups and individual states.

In view of the fact that you are meeting just before the Third UN General Assembly Special Session on Disarmament I should like to express the hope that the Havana forum of nonaligned countries will give considerable impetus to its work in a constructive spirit.

I wish you success in your work.

E. Shevardnadze.

Meeting Concludes

LD3105223988 Moscow TASS in English 1518 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Havana May 31 TASS—TASS correspondent Aleksandr Voropayev reports:

A special meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement on disarmament problems ended in the Cuban capital. It was attended by over 100 delegations on nonaligned countries, observers and representatives of international and regional organizations. They examined a broad range of questions on the activities of the Nonaligned Movement and defined an action plan at the special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament which opens today.

Meeting participants sent a message to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and US President Ronald Reagan where they wished many a success to the Moscow summit in boosting the process of limiting armaments and of disarmament. They also adopted an appeal to world nations, pointing to the vital importance of disarmament, development and strengthening of peace and international security. The Havana forum approved the final communique. It notes the great importance of the Soviet-American dialogue for strengthening peace on the earth and defines the important role of the Nonaligned Movement in the campaign for general and complete disarmament.

Communique Reviewed

LD3105233088 Moscow TASS in English 1839 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Havana May 31 TASS—The Coordination Bureau of the nonaligned countries has ended its forum on disarmament issues here by endorsing the final communique and the plan of action. The forum was attended by more than 100 delegations of nonaligned countries, national-liberation movements and international organisations.

The communique views the Soviet-U.S. intermediate-range nuclear forces treaty as an important and encouraging step, stressing the need for efforts to ensure the fulfilment of this agreement and for new steps in this

direction. Noting that the conclusion of a Soviet-U.S. treaty on a 50 percent reduction of strategic offensive weapons became an important landmark in this process, the document calls for signing this agreement this year. The participants in the session spoke out in favour of the third special session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament which opens today and which must make an important contribution to attaining a lasting peace in the world.

The document expresses unreserved support for the principle under which outer space, which belongs to entire mankind, must be used only for peaceful purposes and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of the level of their economic and technical development.

The communique condemns the South African regime, and the strategic alliance between the USA and Israel. It sharply criticised cooperation between several NATO member countries with Israel, which manifested itself, in particular, in nuclear technology transfers and contains an appeal to all states to discontinue any contacts with this country.

The document expresses support for the proposal on creating nuclear-free zones in Africa, the Middle East, in north-eastern Asia, and also zones of peace and cooperaiton in other regions, in particular, in the South Atlantic and in the South Pacific. It contains a proposal to set up a zone of peace and cooperation in Central America with the withdrawal of all foreign troops from there, which, as it was stressed, would facilitate the solution of the regional conflict. The communique expresses serious concern over increased American military presence in this region.

European Parliamentarians Close Session
LD0106204588 Moscow TASS in English 1844 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Sofia June 1 TASS—Questions of the creation of zones free from nuclear and chemical weapons in various areas of Europe were discussed at a meeting of parliamentarians from European countries that ended in Sofia today. This was the first such forum in which representatives of 14 countries, as well as of the Parliament of Europe took part. The Soviet delegation was headed by Chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet Avgust Voss.

Summing up the results of the debates, chairman of the interparliamentary group at the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Petur Vutov noted that there has been unity at the forum in the awareness that the creation of such zones in the Balkans, in central and northern Europe would help enhance confidence among states and rid humanity of nuclear menace.

Discussions at North Atlantic Assembly Viewed
LD2705155288 Moscow TASS in English 1521 GMT 27 May 88

[Text] Lisbon May 27 TASS—TASS correspondent G. Petrov reports:

Questions of disarmament and East-West relations following the signing by the USSR and the United States of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles are in the focus of attention of participants in the spring session of the North Atlantic Assembly that started in the city of Funchal, Madeira, Portugal. Some 200 parliamentarians from NATO countries attend the session. Political observers attach particular importance to the current session in connection with the Soviet-American summit in Moscow.

The participants in the session will discuss a special report drafted by the political committee of this parliamentary organization of NATO by the current session. The authors of the report demand that the governments of NATO countries upgrade the potential of conventional armaments and make additional allocations for these purposes. The document contains the call for setting up a "European division" on the basis of the Franco-West German brigade and placing it under a "mixed military command." NATO parliamentarians propose that the governments of NATO countries press on the Warsaw Treaty for actually unilateral reduction of its forces.

At the same time the parliamentarians call on the leadership of the alliance not to be in a hurry about adopting a decision on "modernising" the arsenal of short-range nuclear missiles deployed in Western Europe. The document emphasizes that it is necessary to lessen NATO's dependence on short-range nuclear weapons while preserving the efficiency and reliability of the alliance's nuclear potential. The efforts in the years ahead should be concentrated on non-nuclear forces. The authors of the report also propose a reduction of the total number of nuclear weapons in Europe.

The session will discuss the role of nuclear weapons-free zones, the scopes of conventional armaments in Europe, the situation at the U.S. bases on NATO's southern flank, the events in the Persian Gulf. Considerable attention is given to military cooperation between France and Great Britain, also between the FRG and France. Reports about the consequences of the catastrophe in Chernobyl and the recent tragedy in Goyaninha, Brazil, will be heard at the session. The local press notes that prospects for the development of East-West cooperation in the area of science and technology will hold an important place on the agenda.

United States & Canada

Butkov Views Nancy Reagan's Public Role

PM0206093588 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 2 Jun 88 p 3

[M. Butkov article: "A Lifelong Role"]

[Text] She looks at him with wide open eyes. They contain adoration and touching concern.

He is brave, determined, with a charming, slightly ironical smile—a real, all-American man.

Nancy and Ronald. That is how we have become accustomed to seeing them in photographs and on television—always together.

On 4 March 1952, the Hollywood actress Nancy Davis added another name to her maiden name: the name of Reagan.

Having exchanged the Hollywood studios for the political stage, since 1967 Nancy has been playing a different role. Until 1974, she was the first lady of California and since 1980, the First Lady of the United States.

Her charm and energetic activity in this field—and Mrs Reagan heads a special program for fighting drug addiction and alcoholism among young people—have brought her more recognition than her film career: According to Gallup figures, since 1981 Nancy Reagan has invariably been among the 10 most popular women in the world and twice, in 1981 and 1985, she topped this list. It is true that the report disseminated in the United States recently about the First Lady's passion for astrology (she allegedly consults the stars before taking any big decision) did somewhat shake her image.

Nancy Reagan's struggle for a healthy way of life for young people is not restricted to U.S. territory. She is the initiator of international conferences of First Ladies on questions of drug addiction and alcoholism, the last of which, held in the year of the United Nations' 40th anniversary, collected 30 participants. I should, it is true, like to note that this activity of hers in no way prevents her husband from supporting the Nicaraguan contras and Afghan "intransigents," who are involved in drug smuggling.

Nancy's concern for young people is understandable: The Reagans have four children. The first two are Maureen, born in 1941, and Michael, adopted by Ronald in 1945 when he was still married to his first wife. Patty was born to the Reagans in 1952, and Ronald, in 1958.

The influence of their parents' example affected the children's choice of profession: Patty is an actress, Ron works in television and for magazines, Maureen is a U.S. representative in the UN commission on the status of women, and Michael does radio broadcasting and heads a sponsorship company in California. Incidentally, thanks to him, Ronald and Nancy are already grandparents twice over.

Hand in hand, they will mount the gangway of the President's Air Force 1 aircraft at Moscow airport. In the past few days, the whole world has been observing the Reagans' joint role—possibly their last big role. This time, too, they seem to have played it successfully....

Kamentsev Confers With U.S. Businessmen

PM0206121788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Jun 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading: "Meetings in Moscow"]

[Text] The signing of the "Basic Principles for a General Trade Agreement" between Soviet foreign economic and U.S. trade consortiums, which stipulates the economic and legal foundations for the creation of joint enterprises between Soviet production associations and U.S. firms in the sphere of petroleum extraction, automobile construction, instrument making, the creation of medical equipment, and the processing of agricultural output, took place in Moscow on 31 May.

V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, delivered a speech of greeting at the signing ceremony.

A conversation took place between V.M. Kamentsev and D. Andreas, cochairman of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council, and also R. Karbonel [name as published] and J. Giffen, leaders of the American Trade Consortium, in the course of which they discussed questions of the status of and prospects for the development of Soviet-U.S. trade and economic cooperation, including new forms, such as the creation of joint enterprises on USSR territory.

On the same day V.M. Kamentsev received C. Hugel and R. Howson, the presidents of the U.S. Combustion Engineering and McDermott Corporations respectively.

They discussed questions regarding these corporations' involvement in creation of a large-scale petrochemical complex in West Siberia.

Cooperation Agreement Signed

LD3105230888 Moscow TASS in English 1755 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 31 TASS—An agreement on basic principles of cooperation between the Soviet Foreign Economic Consortium (SFEC) and the American Trade Consortium (ATC) was signed by the consortiums' general directors here today.

SFEC consists of enterprises of the automobile, petroleum, petrochemical, and medical branches of industry and the agri-industrial sector while ATC consists of Ford, Johnson and Johnson, RSR Nabisco, Kodak, and well-known companies.

Future joint activities will be based on a more flexible interpretation of the principle of currency self-repayment. It will be exercised not at the level of individual joint ventures being set up in the Soviet Union with the participation of U.S. capital but at the level of the consortium as a whole. In other words, part of joint ventures being established by the American and Soviet consortiums will earn foreign currency, which will enable the rest fully to sell their products on the Soviet market.

"The agreement," Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, who attended the signing ceremony, told a TASS correspondent, "is based on a new concept of trade-and-economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and the United States. It is aimed at developing large-scale joint enterprise in the fields of oil production, instrument making, automotive construction, medical equipment. And the output of farm products."

Vladimir Kamentsev expressed hope that the Soviet-American enterprises which are part of the consortiums will start turning out products soon.

The general agreement on cooperation between SFEC and ATC is to be signed before the end of 1988.

Dobrynin Receives ASTEC Cochairman

LD0106195688 Moscow TASS in English 1723 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 1 TASS—Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has received Dwayne Andreas, co-chairman of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council (ASTEC).

Mr Andreas, who was a guest at the dinner given in the Kremlin on May 30 in honour of the U.S. President and his wife, spoke highly of Mikhail Gorbachev's speech at the dinner.

A strong impression was produced by the constructive approach of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee to the development of Soviet-American relations and solutions to international problems. I would say, Mr Andreas said, that Mikhail Gorbachev's speech was of programmatic in nature. [sentence as received] The goals of the policy of perestroyka inside the Soviet Union and restructuring in international relations set out in the speech can arouse only admiration and approval.

The wholesome influence of the policy of perestroyka and the change of climate in Soviet-American relations obviously for the better also tells on the process of the development of trade-and-economic contacts between our two countries, Dwayne pointed out.

The signing of the document on the basic provisions of a general trade agreement between the Soviet foreign economic consortium and the American trade consortium by representatives of the business circles of the two countries in Moscow on May 31 can serve as an example of that.

Matters of cooperation between the Soviet and American consortiums as well as other questions concerning the development of business contacts between American firms—members of ASTEC and Soviet foreign-trade organizations were discussed during the meeting which was held in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere.

Abalkin Comments on Soviet-U.S. Ties

LD0106130688 Moscow TASS in English 1041 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 1 TASS—"A general improvement of the climate of Soviet-American relations can be the most important outcome of the Moscow summit," believes Leonid Abalkin, director of the Economics Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

The creation of an atmosphere of mutual confidence and well wishing, will be, in his opinion of great significance also for a broad exchange of know-how, free from prejudice, in different fields of human activities. The development of scientific cooperation is an example of positive change in Soviet-American dialogue. Agreements have been concluded between the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and the National Academy of Sciences of the USA on joint research into a broad range of scientific problems—from biotechnology to forecasting earthquakes. A symposium of economists of the two countries will be held in Moscow in the autumn of 1988 for the first time in many years.

As far as the development of mutual trade is concerned, Academician Abalkin does not expect a radical change in that field soon. He believes that progress in that field will be slow because of the numerous problems involved.

One of them are the notorious restrictions on the supply of miscellaneous goods to the USSR. The Soviet Union has a stake in business ties with the USA in the most advanced fields of science and technology, but not in trade in products of yesteryear which we have enough of in this country. A broadening of Soviet-American trade and economic cooperation directly hinges on lifting these bans which are more often than not artificial. In Abalkin's view "perestroyka is also necessary in the USA, especially as regards the ideas of the Soviet Union and of its potentialities."

More Muscovites See U.S. Ties Improving

PM3105132388 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 31 May 88 First Edition p 3

[Article by Ye. Bashkirova, senior scientific staffer at the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Sociological Research: "What Muscovites Think of Summits; Instructions to the Leaders"]

[Text] Almost 6 months have passed since the December summit in Washington. What changes has public opinion undergone over this period? Let us compare the results of two public opinion polls held in the capital, one on the eve of the Washington summit, and the other prior to the meeting in Moscow.

Muscovites' interest in the problems of international life is traditionally high. Some 95 percent of the people polled are interested in these problems. The number of people whose interest in these problems has increased has risen by 10 percent. It is significant that the number of people who are satisfied with Soviet media information on problems of international life has doubled.

Three-fourths of Muscovites are still seriously concerned at the state of international relations. Most of them are alarmed at the threat of an outbreak of a world nuclear conflict, the possibility of the spread of nuclear weapons to space, and the acute problems confronting all mankind such as hunger, disease, the depletion of energy resources, pollution of the environment, and so forth. Almost all the people polled believe that in order to maintain and strengthen peace, the Soviet Union must **first and foremost** [boldface as published] improve relations with the United States; 34 percent of Muscovites named China; 26 percent named Japan; 22 percent named the FRG; 33 percent named Britain; and 25 percent named France.

During the period that has elapsed, assessments of the state of Soviet-American relations have changed noticeably for the better. The number of people who described Soviet-American relations as good or satisfactory has increased from 59 percent (in late 1987) to 73 percent. Before the Washington summit, evaluating the prospects of Soviet-American relations, one in two of the people polled believed that these relations would improve. Prior to the Moscow meeting, describing the positive changes in Soviet-American relations which have taken place since the meetings between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan in Geneva, Reykjavik, and Washington, 20 percent of those polled described the changes as profound and irreversible, 66 percent as significant but inconstant, 8 percent as shallow and temporary, and 2 percent of those polled said that there were no changes, that everything is as it was before....

The interest in the Moscow meeting is very great. It is even greater than before the Washington summit—88 percent expressed very great or great interest, 10 percent are moderately interested, and 2 percent expressed little or no interest.

Among the range of problems to be discussed between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan during the meeting in Moscow, the overwhelming majority of those polled named forestalling the siting of weapons in space, reducing strategic offensive weapons, and ending nuclear tests.

During both polls, people were asked to express their view as to what line the Soviet delegation should pursue at the upcoming meeting. More than 50 percent of Muscovites believe that the Soviet delegation should make concessions to their talks partners if they act likewise; the advocates of a hardline stance, who believe that it is necessary to firmly stick to one's positions without making any concessions at all, total 22 percent.

On the whole, the majority of those polled attach decisive importance to the meetings between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan regarding relaxation of international tension and preservation of peace; around 25 percent of them believe that they have a certain importance, and only 3 percent believe that their importance is negligible. The overwhelming majority of citizens gave a high appraisal of the regular meetings held between Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz to prepare the summits.

'World Family' To Welcome U.S. Visitors

PM0106111788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 May 88 Second Edition p 5

[P. Bogomolov report: "People's Diplomacy in Action"]

[Text] Preserving peace within oneself and within one's hearth and home and bringing up the young generation of the world in a spirit of mutual trust and friendship are the slogans of the international organization called the World Family, whose members include representatives of Soviet society. The organization's latest plans have been talked about at a session of the discussion club People's Diplomacy in Action, held at the the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace.

"Our next events," said Yelena Skhirtladze, cochairman of the World Family, "are related in the closest way to the upcoming summit meeting in Moscow. We met the other day with 26 U.S. citizens—adults and children—at Sheremetyvo Airport. After dividing into groups, they went to Leningrad, Odessa, and Tbilisi and will live for several weeks in our families, get closely acquainted with Soviet people, and together with us will be able to experience the whole course of the dialogue between the U.S. and Soviet leaders. We are ready to receive our guests as close friends of long standing and have worked out what we think are interesting itineraries for them. We will sincerely share our concerns and joys and discuss

in both broad and specific terms everything that is still impeding the establishment of qualitatively new relations between our peoples."

...On 1 June it is intended to hold a World Family celebration soiree next to the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace building, on the Prospekt Mira. Traditional tea-drinking and Soviet and American songs will unite at a single large table the numerous guests and hosts of the soiree. It is planned to present representatives of the two countries' leadership there with the text of a joint appeal urging sustained effort in the struggle for a world free of nuclear weapons and violence. As determined by the decisions of the conference entitled "New Thinking in a Nuclear Age," held in Washington in February, people's diplomacy will thereby be taking another, important step forward.

China

Volskiy Reviews Factors Favoring Asian Security

OW2905191788 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 22 May 88

[Volskiy commentary: "What Promotes and What Hampers Asian Security"]

[Text] Asian security has a direct and vital bearing on the interests of Soviet and Chinese people. Despite the coexistence of two diametrically opposing trends in developments in Asia, we can clearly see that a strong impetus has been given to positive changes in that part of the world.

What has facilitated this strong impetus? It is, first and foremost, the famous speech made by Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in Vladivostok in the summer of 1986. It has been almost 2 years since then, but the speech has continued to receive worldwide attention. Moreover, as Comrade Gorbachev pointed out recently, it is worth noting that people in the Asia-Pacific region have shown a growing interest in the ideas and proposals put forward in Vladivostok, which cover a wide range of areas and a long time to implement.

Since then, the Soviet Union has expanded and supplemented the program put forth in Vladivostok for strengthening security and developing international cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. In an interview with Indonesia's MERDEKA last year, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee said that the program has drawn the interest of people, mass media, and government officials of Asia-Pacific countries.

There is no denying that politically initial steps have been taken to realize the program. The marked improvement of Soviet-Chinese relations in recent years, for example, suffices to prove this point. Undoubtedly also the signing of the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty has promoted the strengthening of security in the Asia-Pacific region.

From the Soviet viewpoint, the INF Treaty involves not only Europe but also the Asia-Pacific region. In this connection, the destruction for the first time in history of two categories of nuclear weapons will also signify as a first practical disarmament step for the Asia-Pacific region. Hardly anything can be compared to this step in terms of political significance.

The significance of the INF Treaty is undisputed. But the signing of the Geneva agreement for mediating the conflict in Afghanistan is as important as the INF Treaty. For the first time in many years, practical measures have been discussed and decided on solving one of the most acute regional conflicts in Asia.

The Geneva agreement is already being implemented. In line with the agreement, the first contingent of the Soviet troops was withdrawn from Afghanistan on 15 May.

There are many other developments which testify to the positive changes occurring in the Asia-Pacific region. Let me mention the development of bilateral relations among countries of the region, including among those with different social systems. The Thai prime minister's recent visit to Moscow is convincing proof of this.

But this is only one of the trends. Another trend in the developments in Asia is that the militarist blocs of the United States and its allies have conspicuously increased their military activities in the Asia-Pacific region. They have regularly carried out naval exercises along the coastal waters of the Korean peninsula, and in the Yellow Sea, the East China Sea, and the Sea of Japan. The United States plans to increase the number of vessels of its 7th Fleet to 100 and upgrade the Trident guided missile and nuclear systems on its Ohio-class submarines. The Pentagon has stepped up the construction of military bases in Micronesia, and plans to renew its agreements on U.S. military bases in the Philippines.

All these war preparations are directed against the Soviet Union and its allies, who naturally have been forced to take countermeasures. However, these countermeasures are for defensive purposes only and are not intended to threaten any other Asian countries.

In the meantime, the Soviet Union and its allies are ready to conclude agreements on reducing military activities in the Pacific. They have tried their utmost to make the region a demilitarized zone. Their consistent stand cannot but exert a favorable influence on the situation in Asia. A report in Hong Kong's FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW may well explain this point. It said: During the Philippine president's recent visit to China, Beijing declared that it is more afraid of the activities of Japan and the United States than those of the Soviet naval and air forces in Southeast Asia.

The U.S. war preparations in the Asia-Pacific region, the revival of militarism in Japan, the excessive growth of South Korea's combat capability, and the formation of the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul triangle as a branch organization of NATO all run counter to the vital interests of the people of Asia.

The policy of perpetuating regional conflicts in Asia, in particular, is detrimental to the interests of the people of Asia. In Afghanistan, for example, even after the signing of the Geneva agreement, some groups violated the agreement by openly attempting to supply arms to the extremist factions of the Afghan rebels.

What the Asian people need is something totally different. They hope that the situation in Asia will develop in the direction of consolidating peace and security and expanding international cooperation on the basis of equality. However, the realization of these hopes will invariably require more resolute and more effective efforts by all people in Asia.

Need for Trust Stressed in Relations

OW2905223988 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0300 GMT 26 May 88

[Alekseyev commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: The Soviet Union attaches great importance to the development of neighborly and friendly ties with China. The development of bilateral relations has, on the whole, been satisfactory. I would like to note that between 1982 and 1987, trade volume between the two countries increased 10 times, and economic cooperation in various fields has strengthened. The Soviet Union will take part in the modernization and construction of some of China's large industrial enterprises. The two countries have also increased contacts in the sports and scientific-technological fields. Station commentator Alekseyev has the following comment:

In addition to this cooperation, there is the possibility of more constructive and friendly contacts between the two countries. Such contacts, first of all, concern the political area. The Soviet Union clearly realizes that an atmosphere of mutual trust, which has been absent for a long period, is essential for the complete normalization of relations between the Soviet Union and China. We believe that the most important task today is to change the past state of affairs.

What has the Soviet Union been doing in this respect? Here I would like to point out the measures taken by the Soviet Union to establish an atmosphere of trust along the Soviet-Chinese border.

Speaking at a Moscow meeting celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces last February, Soviet Defense Minister Yazov explained these measures in detail. He said: The Soviet Union has not built up its troops in the Far East in the past several years. Moreover, their numbers along the Soviet-Chinese border have been reduced, and some of the troops have been withdrawn from Mongolia. The headquarters of the Soviet Armed Forces are also showing restraint in conducting troop exercises, and they are not increasing their number and scale.

The defense minister emphatically said: The positive change in our relations with China is an important factor in promoting the improvement of the situation in the Far East.

USSR-PRC Views on Disarmament 'Very Close'

OW3005180688 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 27 May 88

[Mulatov commentary: "Moscow's and Beijing's Views"]

[Text] Let us take a look at a very important and urgent international issue which is of great concern to the people of all countries, and which concerns the interests of all mankind. People around the world have enthusiastically been discussing the question of reaching an agreement on disarmament on the eve of the fourth Soviet-U.S. summit. As everybody knows, the INF Treaty was signed between the Soviet Union and the United States last December when Soviet leader Gorbachev met with U.S. President Reagan. The treaty has brought hope to all people. People in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Western Hemisphere, Australia, and Oceania have begun to believe in the real possibility of nuclear disarmament. Following is a short commentary, Moscow's and Beijing's Views, by Mulatov, an observer of this station. He says:

When common people, political leaders, and state and party activists of a country share a common view on an important question concerning life and death, people will believe that the question will be solved. In January 1986, the Soviet Union put forward a guiding principle for eliminating all nuclear weapons phase by phase. [Words indistinct] the Soviet people take the principle as a guide in establishing a nuclear-free world.

Our determination to follow this course has actually become a major concern of the people of the whole world. State activists of scores of countries on various continents believe that assisting the Soviet Union and the United States to open up an effective dialogue on stopping nuclear arms race has become their obligation.

The Soviet Union's and China's positions on nuclear disarmament are in agreement with each other in many respects. Therefore, it is not accidental that almost all proposals and views presented by China in the past, if not literally, are expressed in substance and spirit in the guiding principle put forward by the Soviet Union on eliminating all nuclear weapons phase by phase.

Now let us have a look at the necessity for the Soviet Union and the United States to reduce their offensive strategic weapons by 50 percent in the first stage. This is one of the topics of the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. summit. Can't we say that this brings hope to all people?

Both the Soviet Union and China believe that the ratification and formal signing of the INF Treaty and a Soviet-U.S. agreement on reducing their offensive strategic weapons by 50 percent are an indispensable requisite to open the way to nuclear disarmament. We should also point out that the two largest socialist countries are firmly opposed to any plans to militarize space. As everybody knows, in his recent talks with Czechoslovak party leader Jakes, Zhao Ziyang stressed that China hopes that the Soviet-U.S. dialogue will go on smoothly.

Chinese listeners (Bai Guanglin), (Dong Maoliang), (Cui Jianjun) and others have written us hoping that the Soviet Union will (?continue its efforts in this matter) in order to achieve total nuclear disarmament. I think this explains things quite well: The Soviet Union and China have no contradictions. As a matter of fact, they are very close in their views on nuclear disarmament.

'Critical Stage' of PRC Reform Noted

LD0106204988 Moscow TASS in English 2001 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Beijing June 1 TASS—The current reform in China has entered a critical stage. Its extension calls for solving the problems which are marked by complexity and can not be by-passed.

This was noted, according to news agency XINHUA, at a three-day meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, which ended today, after discussing the vital issues of reform and economic development in the country.

The meeting, chaired by the secretary general of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Zhao Ziyang, stressed the need to continue pursuing the policy of speeding up and extending reforms, worked out at the party's 13th congress.

It was pointed out at the meeting that with the aim of restructuring the mechanisms of price and wage formation, they should be viewed in conjunction, on the basis of plans. The development of socialist commodity exchange economy requires actions that will be consistent with the law of value.

Efforts are needed not only to eliminate irregularities and to provide incentives in production but also to ensure a gradual rise in the standard of living of the majority of the population. It was noted that the success here depended on higher economic efficiency, primarily in industry. It is necessary to extend the reform at enterprises, to upgrade management and spur on technical progress.

The participants in the session, the news bulletin says, came to the conclusion that to make the programme of reform and expanding foreign ties successful, the party and state bodies should be honest and incorruptible, while those engaging in criminal activities: embezzlement, bribe-taking and extortion, should be punished by law. Demands should be toughened for party construction. The ideological and party work should be rebuilt and strengthened, legislation upgraded and social stability ensured, the Political Bureau stressed.

Sinologists Meet PRC Veteran Revolutionaries

OW3105134188 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress to Asian-Pacific Region 1300 GMT 29 May 88

[Excerpts] Invited by the China Association for International Understanding, a delegation from the All-Union Society of Sinologists, led by Titarenko, chairman of the society and also director of the Soviet Far East Institute, visited China from 28 April to 13 May. Recently he granted an interview to this station's reporter. Yesterday we reported the first part of the talk by Titarenko. He told the reporter about his impressions of the visit and about the success of the visit to China by Soviet sinologists. The following is the second part of the talk:

During its visit to the People's Republic of China, the delegation of the All-Union Society of Sinologists met many Chinese scholars, social activists, and statesmen, as well as noted veteran CPC members Li Yimang and Wu Xiuquan. [passage omitted]

Our meetings with Comrades Li Yimang and Wu Xiuquan made a strong impression on us. It was like coming into contact with the history of the Chinese Revolution. Comrade Li Yimang is a member of the CPC Central Committee's Advisory Commission. This organization is a prestigious organ. [passage omitted] Comrade Wu Xiuquan assumed the chairmanship of the China-USSR Friendship Association. Our meeting with him also made a deep impression on us. During a conversation with us, he recalled his many visits to the Soviet Union. [passage omitted] Comrade Wu Xiuquan said that the history of the Chinese Revolution is linked to the history of the October Revolution in Russia. (?As in the past), the Chinese people still appreciate the Soviet people's aid to the cause of China's socialist construction. He frankly noted that there were complicated stages in Chinese-Soviet relations. He said: We must work together to overcome this problem. We should soberly learn from historical lessons in order to promote the welfare and progress of the Soviet and Chinese people as well as cooperation and contact between them.

Soviet scholars and the Soviet public agree with such an attitude for developing Soviet-Chinese relations.

Although Comrades Li Yimang and Wu Xiuquan are already over 80 years old, they are still concerned about the cause of the party and the people. They have set a

brilliant example in devoting themselves to the revolutionary cause. Because of this, our meetings with them have taught us something and have made a deep impression on us. We believe that these kind of meetings and the further expansion of cooperation between social organizations of the two countries are conducive to promoting mutual understanding and cooperation between our two countries.

Chinese Envoy Yu Hongliang Visits Kiev

AU2705114288 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 20 May 88 p 3

[RATAU report: "An Ambassador's Visit"]

[Text] On 17-19 May Yu Hongliang, PRC ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR, was in Kiev. He paid visits to N.G. Khomenko, Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium secretary, and V.A. Zgurskiy, Kiev Gorispolkom chairman. The guest visited the "Kievtraktorodetal" production association, the "Sovki" sovkhoz in Kievo-Svyatoshinskiy Rayon, and toured places of interest in the city.

Harbin Trade Delegation Visits Khabarovsk

OW3005141288 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 22 May 88

[Text] The visit of the Harbin economic and trade delegation to Khabarovsk went beyond the scope of negotiating with the association of border consumers' cooperatives for fishery products and exhibiting samples for bilateral trade. The Chinese guests visited many factories in the border region and examined their products. They also visited many stores and markets in Khabarovsk and studied the trade system of state-run cooperatives. The meeting between the Chinese guests and their Soviet hosts at the House for Friendship played an important part in the Chinese delegation's visit to Khabarovsk.

Nikiforov, chairman of the Khabarovsk chapter of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, made a speech at the meeting to greet the Chinese guests. He said: The friendly relations between Khabarovsk and Harbin have a long history. These relations were established in the early 1950's on the basis of mutual respect and good-neighborliness. I personally had the honor to participate in various activities to promote these bilateral relations at the time. Then, I was secretary of the Khabarovsk City Komsomol Committee. I often visited Harbin on official business. During the past few years, we exchanged visits with our Chinese neighbors on several occasions, thanks to the efforts made by the friendship societies of both sides. Some of our comrades here at this meeting today have visited Heilongjiang Province. With happy feelings, they recall the warm reception accorded them by the Chinese comrades. They are pleased to meet the Chinese comrades here to exchange views and discuss how to further strengthen their relations.

(Li Naixiang), general manager of the Harbin Trading Company, made a speech to greet the comrades of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society. He said: Dear Soviet comrades, we are delighted to visit Khabarovsk this time. We have been warmly received by our Soviet comrades and friends. During the past few days, we have smoothly carried out our economic and trade activities, and discussed many projects on the basis of mutual understanding and support for common progress. We have visited state farms, enterprises, and factories. Today, we attend this meeting sponsored by the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society. Wherever we go, we are warmly received by the Soviet comrades. I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Soviet people and Soviet comrades for their hospitality. As the comrade chairman of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society said, the friendship between our two countries reflects a tradition of long-term significance. Our visit to the city of Khabarovsk to hold talks on trade relations and economic and technical cooperation is the historical development of our traditional friendship. The development of our trade relations and the economic and technical cooperation between the two cities will further promote the friendship between the peoples of the two countries. The members of our trade delegation include Harbin City's planning commission chairman, the director of the city's business association, and a representative of the city's foreign trade company. I would like to introduce comrade (Ma Ji), chairman of the Harbin chapter of the China-USSR Friendship Association, who is also a member of our delegation.

Comrade (Ma Ji) then delivered a speech. He said: The China-USSR Friendship Association has vigorously carried out its activities in various cities and has done a great deal to promote friendship between the two peoples. Currently the Harbin chapter of the China-USSR Friendship Association has approximately 100,000 members. We wish to thank the members of the Khabarovsk chapter of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society for their efforts to promote friendship between the two countries. We, members of the Harbin chapter of the China-USSR Friendship Association, will also strive to promote friendship between the two countries. In conclusion, I hope that the friendship between the Soviet and Chinese people will be further strengthened and developed with each passing day, and wish the Soviet comrades success and good health.

Near East & South Asia

TASS Rounds Up Recent Events in Afghanistan

LD0106203388 Moscow TASS in English 1030 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Kabul June 1 TASS—A children's fund has been set up in Afghanistan by a presidential decree timed for International Children's Day on June 1.

The ordinance instructs Afghan publishing houses to print more children's books in the languages of ethnic groups inhabiting the country.

The National Council (parliament) of Afghanistan, in the meantime, is continuing its sittings. It has elected commissions to prepare regulations on the work of the two parliamentary chambers—the Senate and the Wolosi Jirga [National Assembly].

The Senate at its meeting has elected Shah 'Ali Akbar Shahrestani and Halaluddin Badri its deputy chairmen. It has also elected its secretaries.

Popular assemblies are being held across the land in support of the Geneva agreements.

Tribal representatives attending one such rally in the eastern province of Lowghar have declared that the initiative for establishing demilitarized zones along the Afghan-Pakistani border is a goodwill gesture on the part of the government and corresponds to the spirit and letter of the Geneva accords.

A truck carrying peasants from the Kashkak [name as received] village has hit a mine planted by extremists in Herat Province, BAKHTAR News Agency reported. Five persons were killed and another one was wounded.

An explosive device was found Tuesday at the Kabul bus depot. According to the security service, it was to be set off in a bus during morning rush hours.

A 15-strong armed group terrorizing people in Kabul Province has been wiped out. Another successful operation against intransigent opposition groups has been carried out in Faryab Province. A large amoung of arms and ammunition was seized there.

Roundtable Meeting Held on Afghan Situation

LD2705224488 Moscow TASS in English 2145 GMT 27 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS—The situation in Afghanistan in the light of the implementation of the Geneva accords was discussed today at a round table meeting at the public information centre opened for the Soviet-American summit. Representatives of the USSR Defence Ministry, Foreign Ministry, of the Union of Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and a number of public organizations took part in the meeting.

Chief of the Afghan sector of the USSR Foreign Ministry Aleksandr Oblov said that the obligations of all countries involved in the settlement of the situation regarding Afghanistan were clearly outlined in Geneva, their striving to end outside interference in the affairs of that sovereign country was proclaimed. But while the Soviet Union which started the withdrawal of its troops from the Afghan territory on May 15 showed allegiance to the spirit of Geneva, Pakistan's actions clearly do not promote the implementation of the arrangements achieved. Arms are continued to be supplied to the opposition, new units of extremists are being set up. Plans of combat operations against the Afghan people are drawn up. "Nevertheless we think that Pakistan will have to show regard for the agreements which were welcomed with hope all over the world and whose guarantors the two great powers—the Soviet Union and the United States—are", the spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry said.

Soviet units are being withdrawn from Afghanistan strictly according to schedule in the atmosphere of openness, said spokesman for the USSR Defence Ministry Nikolay Shabolin. Approximately one tenth of the limited Soviet contingent has already returned home. "Soviet soldiers have fulfilled their internationalist duty completely", the general said.

TASS Analyst on Implementing Geneva Accords

LD0106194488 Moscow TASS in English 1841 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 1 TASS—TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

Reports are coming in from Pakistan about unceasing supply of American and other foreign arms and ammunition which are intended for armed groups of 'intransigents' (this is how the West calls the leaders of the "Alliance of Seven" who did not accept the Geneva agreements and still maintain their headquarters, training centers, fortified points, and camps on Pakistani territory despite the agreements bearing Islamabad's signature) that are subsequently to be infiltrated into the territory of Afghanistan.

The United States airlifts 'emergency supplies' of arms and ammunition which are to replenish the stocks at the depots in Islamabad's area which were considerably damaged by the blast on April 10. At the same time the blast claimed the lives of many Pakistanis, too. Existing data have it that on the eve of the entering into force of the Geneva agreements, the United States addressed Tehran with a proposal through third countries to render the necessary financial and military aid to the Afghan opposition if Iran agrees to the opposition's transfer from Pakistani bases to camps in the eastern areas of Iran.

One gathers the impression that Washington, through speeding up the supply of arms (estimated at hudnreds of millions of dollars) to the Afghan insurgents, wants to add fuel into the flame of the civil war being conducted by the intransigents. Is not this goal served by the talk by some American figures the kind of Congressman Wilson as to when will the 'freedomfighters' capture this or that city in Afghanistan and form a government 'acceptable' to Washington?

Meanwhile Islamabad contributes to broadening the scope of the bloodshed and destruction on Afghan soil. Convoys of trucks with arms and ammunition for anti-government armed groups continuously ride from Pakistan to Afghanistan.

Already after the Geneva agreements entered into force, more than 100 trucks with military cargoes rode to the area of the Afghan-Pakistani border on one of the days in May. Recently the Pakistani authorities recommended that the "Alliance of Seven" step up the activity. And how can one view President Ziaul Haq's hostile pronouncements with regard to the legitimate Government of Afghanistan otherwise than an overt encouragement of the armed opposition to a continuation of the bloody war against the Afghan people?

The matter is not limited to the supply of arms. It is reported that new and new groups of insurgents are infiltrated from Pakistani territory into Afghanistan. The cases of infiltration of foreign military advisers and mercenaries into Afghan territory from Pakistan have been noted, too.

The transfer of weapons and ammunition, just like foreign mercenaries and specialists, is a glaring violation of the Afghan-Pakistani agreement signed in Geneva on the principles of relationships and, in particular, on non-interference and on renunciation of intervention.

Such actions not only fail to promote an earliest solution to the Afghan problem but, on the contrary, threaten to nullify the achievements and experience of the Geneva process, and to darken the prospects for a solution to other regional conflicts.

It is essential to secure a strict observance of the Geneva agreements by all the parties concerned. International guarantees on non-interference should be observed. Only in that case the way towards a solution to the Afghan problem in all its aspects will open up.

Kornilov Comments on Pakistani Political Events

LD0106210188 Moscow TASS in English 1812 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 1 TASS—TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

Today's events in Pakistan—the disbandment by the president of parliament and the cabinet of ministers—attracted considerable attention of the international press. Discussing the underlying causes of these events, some Western media declare that one of the aims that Ziaul Haq sets at the present stage is to try to dissociate himself in some or other measure from the Geneva accords on Afghanistan that were signed on behalf of the Pakistani Government by Minister of State Zain Noorani.

Such views would likely be regarded precisely as a version of separate press bodies if Islamabad were strictly observing the spirit and the letter of the agreements in the "Geneva package" under which interference from the Pakistani territory in Afghan internal affairs should be stopped. But, deplorably, things are different. Interference in Afghan internal affairs, far from being stopped by May 15 even intensified. Pakistani governmental organisations stepped up the dispatch of units of armed Afghan opposition and convoys with arms to Afghanistan. Bases where terrorists are trained, staffs where combat operations on Afghan land are masterminded and propaganda centres of the anti-government groups which whip up anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet allegations continue operating intensively in the Pakistani territory.

Why is it and for what purpose that they in Islamabad so grossly violate the Geneva accords and put obstacles to an end to bloodshed? Doesn't the current Pakistani leadership which, by all indications, is acting not without advice and prompting from the outside, really want to dissociate itself from the "Geneva package" and go back on the obligations and provisions contained in it?

And if this is so—and facts increasingly indicate that this is really so—it should be said definitely that Ziaul Haq as president of Pakistan bears full responsibility for strict observance of the Geneva agreements. And if the Pakistani side does not wish to heed serious warnings, if its actions bring about the actual destruction of the Geneva accords, they in Islamabad should know that the Soviet Union will react to such actions decisively, as the situation will require.

One still would like to hope that common sense and realism will prevail in Islamabad, which would suit the aims of the settlement of the Afghan problem and genuine national interests of Pakistan itself.

Trade Prospects Discussed With Egyptian Firms

PM3105132788 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 27 May 88 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Basis for Cooperation"]

[Text] Port Sa'id, 26 May—Questions of developing economic cooperation and trade links between the USSR and Egypt were discussed at a Soviet-Egyptian "roundtable" session held here on Wednesday. Egyptian economists, the heads of Egyptian industrial companies and enterprises, and also representatives of Soviet foreign trade organizations took part.

The possibilities for cooperation between Egyptian firms and businessmen and Soviet foreign trade associations and industrial enterprises were considered during the discussion. Speakers noted that firm foundations in the sphere of Soviet-Egyptian economic ties were laid in the first decades after the 1952 Egyptian revolution, when

the Aswan hydroelectric power complex, Hulwan metallurgical combine, Alexandria shipyard, and other leading national economic projects were built with Soviet assistance.

Baghdad Conference on Persian Gulf Concludes

PM3105085188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
29 May 88 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by PRAVDA special correspondent P. Demchenko and TASS special correspondent A. Bolmatov: "Representative Forum Ends Its Work"]

[Text] Baghdad, 28 May—A 3-day international conference on peace in the Persian Gulf has ended in Baghdad. Taking part in its work were more than 1,000 delegates representing various public, political, and religious organizations from more than 60 countries, including socialist and Arab states, Western Europe, India, the United States, and Canada. The Soviet Union was represented by a joint delegation from the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace, the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries, the USSR Journalists' Union, and the Soviet Society for Friendship and Cultural Ties With Arab Countries.

The main objective of the conference was to mobilize the still insufficiently effective efforts by the public to end the Iran-Iraq war, which is in its 8th year and has inflicted huge losses on both countries. It primarily discussed people's diplomacy to support actions by governments in favor of peace, and exerting pressure on Iran to make it agree to comply with the well-known UN Security Council resolution calling for the conflict to be solved around the negotiating table. This was essentially the first serious attempt to involve the broad world public in the struggle for peace in the Persian Gulf.

Late Friday evening the final session adopted a statement calling for the earliest possible cessation of the Iran-Iraq war. The document expresses support for the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan that paved the way for the withdrawal of Soviet troops and that country's return to normal life. The delegates adopted a message to M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President R. Reagan wishing them success at the Moscow meeting. The conference participants expressed hope that the meeting will also contribute toward a peaceful solution of the conflict between Iran and Iraq on the basis of UN principles and full compliance with the relevant Security Council resolution.

The conference approved a series of other documents containing a call for peace in this bleeding part of the world.

IZVESTIYA Views Role of U.S. Cruiser in Gulf

PM3105140688 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
31 May 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exacerbating Tension"]

[Text] New York, 30 May—As AP has reported, the American missile cruiser "Vincennes" passed through the Strait of Hormuz on 28 May and entered the waters of the Persian Gulf.

This cruiser, with a displacement of 9,400 tonnes, is equipped with the Aegis electronic weapons control system. It is one of the most modern ships in the U.S. Navy. According to the cruiser's commander, on its arrival "the combat might of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Gulf will increase considerably, since they will have potential they never had before."

The newly arrived cruiser, in its commander's opinion, is equal in its potential to several conventional ones. The point is that the Aegis system enables the cruiser to track and destroy several air targets simultaneously. The "Vincennes" will replace the frigate "Wainwright," which has spent 3 months in the Gulf. This is the second visit to the Gulf by a cruiser equipped with the Aegis system. The first time a ship of this type appeared here was last year.

Despite the presence of the most modern electronic systems on board the cruiser, it is practically defenseless against the mines with which the Persian Gulf is literally seething. In April of this year the U.S. destroyer "Samuel B. Roberts" was blown up by a mine. U.S. officials have refused to explain the purpose for sending to the Gulf a ship designed for combat operations as part of aircraft carrier formations on the open seas. According to experts' assessments, the ship's combat potential is considerably superior to the potential of any probable U.S. adversary in the Gulf.

However, the purpose of the cruiser "Vincennes" expedition is clear even without explanations. Not for the first time, the United States is using the seat of tension in the Persian Gulf to test sophisticated combat hardware. The arrival of a powerful cruiser there will only lead to an exacerbation of tension in the region, where more than 500 merchant ships have already been attacked and more than 300 seamen have died.

Political & Social

Former Azerbaijan Officials Expelled From CPSU

NC0206074988 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] The Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee held a plenum on 30 and 31 May. The plenum discussed the election of delegates to the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference. A total of 104 delegates have been elected from the Azerbaijan party organization in accordance with the norms governing representation.

The plenum also discussed organizational matters. It relieved Ramiz Enver ogly Mekhtiyev from his duties as secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and member of the Central Committee Bureau on the grounds of his advanced years. Ratib Yakuboglu Zeynalov, previously director of AZERINFORM, was elected secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and member of the Central Committee Bureau.

The plenum decided to promote the following candidate members of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee to membership of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee: Alizade, first secretary of the Board of the Azerbaijan SSR Composers Union; Bedirov, first secretary of (?Buca) Rayon Party Committee; Kasparian, [title indistinct]; Khidayatova, machinery worker affiliated to the viticulture [word indistinct] in (?Botkashan) Rayon; Kulikov, chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee General Department; and Karaberdiyev, first secretary of Mingecheur Party Committee.

The plenum discussed the case of Kevorkov, former first secretary of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast Party Committee. The plenum expelled Kevorkov from the CPSU ranks on the grounds that he was personally responsible for the disturbances in the autonomous oblast by allowing serious political discrimination in the guidance given to the oblast's party organization—political discrimination which strained relations between nations.

The plenum discussed the case of Muslim-Zade, former first secretary of Sumgait Gorkom. The plenum expelled Muslim-Zade from the CPSU ranks on grounds that he allowed major deficiencies in organizational and political work, which caused tragic incidents in Sumgait.

The plenum removed Aslanov from the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee on grounds that as chairman of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast Soviet Executive Committee he lacked political principle and allowed serious deficiencies in Nagorno-Karabakh's social and economic development. Meanwhile, [name indistinct], former second secretary of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast Party Committee, was removed from the ranks of the candidate members of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee on grounds that his work in the guidance given to the oblast's party organization was unsatisfactory and he lacked political [word indistinct] and principle.

The plenum heard a report on the meetings held by the first and second secretaries of the Azerbaijan and Armenian Communist Party central committees and approved the work of Abdul Rakhman Vezirov and Vasiliy Konovalov. Voronin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Material and Technical Supply; [name and title indistinct]; Bespalov, minister of the Chemical Industry; and Atanasev, a responsible functionary of the CPSU Central Committee, participated in the work of the plenum.

Armenian Industrial Accident Causes Floods

LD0106190088 Moscow TASS in English 1754 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Yerevan June 1 TASS—Water burst from a tunnel of the Spandaryan hydropower project under construction on the highland River Vorotan. A stream carried 130-180 cubic meters per second. The river swelled and started flooding lowlands along its bed. There is no loss of life. The causes of the accident and the volumes of damage are being investigated.

Urgent measures have been taken to prevent possible consequences. Some 14,000 people have been evacuated from the district's centre Sisian and five villages. Timely warnings about the rise of the level of water in the Vorotan were made to the local government bodies of the Goris district of Armenia and Kubatly district of Azerbaijan. A governmental commission headed by chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic Fadei Sarkisyan has been set up.

First secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia Suren Arutyunyan visited the Sisian district today. Measures have been outlined for a prompt elimination of the accident's consequences.

Yakovlev, Dolgikh Yerevan Activities Reported

Arrival 20 May

PM0106132788 Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 21 May 88 p 1

[ARMENPRESS report: "Arrival of Comrades A.N. Yakovlev and V.I. Dolgikh in Yerevan"]

[Text] A.N. Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and V.I. Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, arrived in Yerevan 20 May.

On the same day A.N. Yakovlev met leaders of the mass news and propaganda media, VUZ rectors, and representatives of the republic's creative intelligentsia.

V.I. Dolgikh had meetings with secretaries of Yerevan raykoms and Yerevan party gorkom, leaders of a number of ministries and departments, and directors of major production associations and enterprises.

The conversations were about the course of restructuring, the expansion of glasnost and democratization, the implementation of economic reform, and the preparations for the 19th all-union party conference.

Tour Enterprises

PM0106133988 Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 22 May 88 p 1

[ARMENPRESS report: "A.N. Yakovlev's and V.I. Dolgikh's Stay in Armenia"]

[Text] A.N. Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and V.I. Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who are visiting the republic, met with first secretaries of Armenian Communist Party gorkoms and raykoms 21 May.

V.I. Dolgikh visited the parent enterprise of the Lenin "Armelektromash," the republic's largest production association. He talked with workers and specialists. The CPSU Central Committee secretary asked about the collective's life, the way it works in the conditions of the new economic reform, and the way questions of social development and the services sphere are being solved.

A.N. Yakovlev and V.I. Dolgikh visited Lenin Square and laid a wreath at the foot of the monument to the leader of the revolution. Wreaths were also laid at the memorial to the victims of the 1915 genocide in Tsitsernakaberd Park and at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in "Akhtanak" Park.

They visited the M. Mashtots Scientifife Research Institute for Ancient Manuscripts and toured the museum exhibition of this major archive and scientific center. Institute Director S.S. Arevshatyan, corresponding member of the Armenian SSR Academy of Science, furnished explanations.

The CPSU Central Committee secretaries were accompanied by S.G. Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee; G.M. Voskanyan, chairman of the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; F.T. Sarkisyan, chairman of the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers; Yu.P. Kochetkov, second secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee; and other officials.

Comrades A.N. Yakovlev and V.I. Dolgikh departed Yerevan 21 May.

Calls for Strike, Violence Denounced

PM0106160788 Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 23 May 88 p 1

[Editorial: "The Right To Be Heard and the Right of Responsibility"]

[Text] Mass rallies have again taken place in Yerevan in the last few days. They have also taken place in Baku, Stepanakert, and Kirovabad. There were, as we know, no breaches of law and order at these rallies. But some speeches delivered there by excited orators did contain words and slogans which were by no means in conformity with the interests of bringing peoples closer together and restoring normal interethnic relations. Nor were attempts to phrase demands in an unusually sharp form avoided.

Yes, glasnost and openness have made people actively face up to many complex, confused, and painful problems which were not usually mentioned in the past. Yes, meaningless eulogies and stereotyped assessments in a sensitive sphere such as interethnic relations have been abolished. But is this really something negative? It is in conditions of spiritual emancipation, glasnost, and openness that we must expect a growth of people's activeness and responsibility for the fate of restructuring, for the clear realization that all of us together bear responsibility for that which is and for that which will be.

It would seem that everyone should realize today: Interethnic problems cannot be resolved otherwise than through democratization. But the standard of our political argument is still woefully lacking, as is our restraint and mutual toleration. Not everyone possesses the ability to assess facts and events from positions of reason rather than emotions, or to rely on that which unites the peoples rather than that which divides them.

It was clearly noticeable at the latest rallies in Yerevan that many people had come to the square in order to display their interest in talking about the way the elections of the republic's emissaries to the forthcoming party conference are going, to report instances of stage management and excessive regulation, and to submit specific proposals meant to secure the election of the worthiest representatives from the republic party organization. But some people tried to exploit this active civic stance in order to give "firm instructions" as to who should be elected and who should be boycotted.

Something else must also be mentioned: The specific factor which encouraged people to take to the streets again at a time when the situation in the city had returned to normal and it was living at its usual labor pace. The cause was the opening of the trial of the criminals guilty of the Sumgait tragedy. The rally participants demanded an objective hearing of the cases, the institution of proceedings against all the guilty parties, and the creation of conditions enabling representatives of the public and the press to attend the trial. None of

this went beyond the bounds of democracy, and the positive suggestions made at the rally are now being carefully studied by the republic leadership and the country's appropriate organs.

But something else must also be taken into account. Now, in the course of preparations for the 19th all-union party conference, the struggle for and against restructuring has become more acute. And it is precisely interethnic issues that the opponents of restructuring could exploit as one bridgehead for their offensive.

Igor Muradyan, one of the speakers at the 19 May rally in Yerevan, loudly declared: "If no news is published, this will untie our hands.... We must be ready to start a national strike [obshchenatsionalnaya zabastovka]. We are setting a deadline for the government...."

These and other irresponsible and bellicose statements by Muradyan, which were downright inflammatory, were greeted with indignation by many participants in the rally.

What is Muradyan after, playing the role of self-styled "spokesman" of the people's will? Is it that difficult to realize that calls for violence are altogether incompatible with the norms of human morality and the humanitarian principles of socialist society, that these calls are pushing our peoples right to the brink of an interethnic tragedy? After all, quite a few young, immature people were present at the rally. Who knows what precipitate actions and unforeseen consequences could result from the confusion sown in their souls? This must not be forgotten!

In conditions of restructuring, democratization, and glasnost, each one of us realizes afresh: "Everything that happens in life concerns me personally; I can express my attitude toward events and my voice will be heard." This is a very important and beneficial process. People are acquiring a taste for social activity, they are developing not a philistine but a genuine interest in profound questions of economics, history, and spiritual life. Restructuring, radical economic reform, and the course toward effective changes in social development are objectively furthering this process and raising people's activeness. Raising their responsibility for themselves, for their republic, for their country. But many people's civic readiness for action does not match up to the moral scale of restructuring; they lack the new thinking, the new awareness, the new level of responsibility. It is responsibility that is acquiring very great importance at this time. Democratization does not mean total license. It presupposes a responsible stance, sensible attitudes, considered decisions and actions, and honest and unprejudiced analysis of the difficult problems of our complex time. At present, as the rallies showed, this level of responsibility is lacking in many people.

Right now the task of the republic's party organizations and ideological aktiv is to resolutely face each individual, to become the militant organizer and mobilizing nucleus in every labor collective. The situation here is stabilizing, but any marking time, any underestimation of heated and dangerously thoughtless calls and slogans can again exacerbate it. We must openly and convincingly demonstrate to people that: The cause of restructuring, and, consequently, the sensible solution of interethnic problems, is in their hands.

Representatives of our creative intelligentsia have spoken their wise and weighty words on several occasions in recent days. The role of the intelligentsia in restructuring is greater than ever before. Now our intelligentsia must speak out more actively against the sentiments of the moment and become real sovereigns of the people's soul.

Democratization and glasnost are now melting the ice of alienation. Whispers, hypocrisy, and backroom gossip are becoming increasingly rare. The importance of an open civic stance is growing. This is the stance that must be taken today by our creative intelligentsia so as to convince the broad masses of the main thing: The strengthening of interethnic relations is part and parcel of the restructuring process; these relations are in a state of development and, as with any development, there are inherent contradictions. The revolutionary renewal of Soviet society being implemented by the CPSU acquires paramount importance in the elimination of these contradictions and in further strengthening our socialist feeling of being a single family. We, each and every one of us, must participate in this renewal and be responsible for it.

Nagorno-Karabakh Television Station Opens

LD0106124088 Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 1 June 88

[Text] Stepanakert June 1 TASS—An own local television station went into service today in the Nagorno-Karabakh autonomous region.

It identifies itself on the screens by flashing the picture of the "our mountains" sculpture standing at the entrance to the area's capital, Stepanakert.

The TV station will be offering programming Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and will be on the air for a weekly total of 3.5 hours, a figure which is to grow with time.

The network of relay stations is to be extended as well, enabling every populated locality in the region, however remote, to watch Stepanakert television.

Final Day of Supreme Soviet Session Summarized

PM3105174588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 May 88 Morning Edition pp 3,6

["Information Report" on USSR Supreme Soviet 26 May Proceedings]

[Text] The 9th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th Convocation continued its work in Moscow 26 May 1988.

The second sitting of the Soviet of the Union opened in the Grand Kremlin Palace at 1000 hours. It was chaired by Yu.N. Khristoradnov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union.

Deputies began discussing the work of soviet and economic organs to ensure the implementation of the program for housing, cultural and consumer service construction in the light of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress.

The following took part in the debate: O.I. Lobov, N.A. Zlobin, V.A. Masol, V.I. Reshetilov, S.Z. Umalatova, V.P. Demidenko, P.M. Davtyan, I.P. Kalin, S. Usmonov, V.Ya. Khodyrev, P.M. Noreyka, P.N. Kostyuchenko, A.D. Dzhumagulov, Ye.P. Maryakhina, and A.G. Kostenyuk.

With that the Soviet of the Union concluded the discussion of the third question of the session's agenda.

The second sitting of the Soviet of Nationalities opened in the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers' Hall of Sessions at 1000 hours. A.E. Voss, the chamber's chairman, presided.

Deputies began discussing the work of soviet and economic organs to ensure the implementation of the program for housing, cultural and consumer service construction in the light of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress.

The following deputies took part in the debate: V.S. Leonov, K. Turysov, V.I. Ogarok, R.A. Timerbayeva, V.D. Danilenko, V.V. Karpov, T.D. Adam-Yusupov, T.V. Lordkipanidze, K.K. Rebane, G.N. Seidov, Kh.A. Perelyaynen, A. Khodzhamuradov, M.I. Semenov, P.S. Grishchenko, and V.A. Arsentyev.

With that the Soviet of Nationalities concluded the discussion of the third question on the session's agenda.

The third joint session of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities opened in the Grand Kremlin Palace at 1500 hours. A.E. Voss, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities, presided.

The USSR Supreme Soviet adopted a resolution on the work of soviet and economic organs to ensure the implementation of the program for housing, cultural and consumer service construction in the light of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress.

The deputies then concluded the examination of the question of the draft USSR Law on the Cooperative System in the USSR. A.F. Ponomarev, chairman of the Soviet of the Union Agro-Industrial Complex Commission, then delivered a report on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers' Agro-Industrial Complex and Legislative Proposals Commissions on the results of the examination in standing commissions of deputies' proposals submitted during the discussion of the draft USSR Law on the Cooperative System in the USSR.

Taking account of the amendments proposed by deputies, the USSR Supreme Soviet adopted the USSR Law "On the Cooperative System in the USSR" and a resolution on the procedure for bringing the law into force.

The USSR Supreme Soviet passed on to the discussion of the fourth question on the session's agenda. Deputies heard the report of V.I. Terebilov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Court, on the work of the USSR Supreme Court. The coreport of the chambers' Legislative Proposals Commissions was delivered by A.A. Titarenko, deputy chairman of the Soviet of the Union Legislative Proposals Commission.

The following deputies took part in the debate: V.S. Shevchenko, L.K. Shepetis, I.S. Gustov, T.V. Krivonogova, A.D. Lizichev, B.V. Kravtsov, A.A. Kuleshov, I.A. Mozgovoy, and B.N. Ponomarev.

The USSR Supreme Soviet adopted a resolution on the report on the work of the USSR Supreme Court.

The USSR Supreme Soviet examined and complied with the request of A.M. Rekunkov to release him from the duties of USSR general prosecutor in connection with his retirement for health reasons.

On the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium a proposal for the apointment of the USSR general prosecutor was delivered by CPSU Central Committee Secretary A.I. Lukyanov.

The USSR Supreme Soviet appointed A.Ya. Sukharev USSR general prosecutor.

The deputies then heard the report of T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on Presidium decrees submitted for ratification by the USSR Supreme Soviet, and they passed the corresponding laws and resolutions.

With that the 9th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th Convocation ended its work.

Supreme Soviet Presidium Voting Discussed

LD3005084988 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 28 May 88

["Democratization and the Role of the Soviets of People's Deputies" program, presented by Yuriy Semenov, with Nadezhda Nikolayevna Merkulova and Anna Nikolayevna Sivolap, USSR Supreme Soviet deputies; Professor (Vsevolod Ivanovich Vasilyev), doctor of juridical sciences; (Nikolay Igorevich Danilov), first deputy chairman of the Nizhniy Tagil Ispolkom; and (Mukhin), a Voronezh Oblast kolkhoz chairman]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Semenov] Listeners have telephoned us and said that allegedly during voting on an issue at the [USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium] session,

some deputies abstained, but the chairman did not notice this, and announced that the motion was carried unanimously. Did this happen?

[Unidentified voice] Yes, it did. This was an error of procedure. The voting in question was on the issue of removing Comrade Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin from the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

[Semenov] Incidentally, there are questions from listeners about the grounds for removing him; although there has been a TASS report, if possible, let us clarify the subject.

[Unidentified voice] I would like to say that there was an error, indeed, maybe because the procedure is not elaborate enough, or maybe because it is too elaborate and has become automatic: In accordance with the tradition when everybody votes only "for," and the chairman does not expect anything different. That is how it is. But in this case somebody disagreed with the general view, and, in principle, you must be prepared for this, because changes are coming. In recent years I attended a number of sessions of local soviets, and in the Moscow City Council, for example, where deputies were not unanimous in their opinions. I know that at the latest session of the Latvian Supreme Soviet, when the issue of the republic's new adinistrative pattern was being discussed, a number of deputies—15 or 16, if I am not mistaken—voted against, and some deputies abstained. Thus, this is a normal democratic procedure, which is becoming part of our political life, and one should be ready for it and take it into considration. Nadezhda Nikolayevna, you wrote in the VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA newspaper that technical means should be introduced, as is the case in many parliaments of the world. Then errors could be avoided.

[Unidentified voice] And now about the essence of the issue. There are questions about why Comrade Yeltsin was removed from the Presidium, as the arguments are not convincing enough. I would like to remind you, comrades, that there is a tradition of division of power, if you can put it this way, which is taken into account when the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium is being formed. It should not include officials from those governing bodies which are accountable to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Supreme Soviet. This is a tradition.

[Unidentified voice] Including ministers.

[Unidentified voice] Ministers, first and foremost, because they are part of the government, which is a body accountable to the Supreme Soviet. I remember in 1983 Comrade Pastukhov was removed from the Presidium. He had been the first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee and then chairman of the State Committee for publishing, and in connection with this as he became a minister—member of a body accountable to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium—he was removed from the Central Committee, and replaced.

[Semenov] There is yet another tradition: The leader of the Moscow party organization, the largest in the USSR, represents Moscow Communists in the Supreme Soviet Presidium. This is the way it was before Comrade Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin was removed, and so Comrade Zaykov was made a member. The same applies to the Leningrad party organization, the Ukrainian one, and so on. I think we have answered this question.

Zaykov Presents Award to Zelenograd

LD2705225188 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 27 May 88

[Excerpts] The streets and squares of Zelenograd near Moscow are decked in festive garb; there are posters and banners announcing that the town is currently celebrating its 30th anniversary. [passage omitted]

Representatives of Zelenograd's labor collectives and public spoke about its remarkable achievements and plans for the future at a festive anniversary soiree held on 27 May. Comrade Zaykov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, spoke at the soiree. The town was presented with a red banner for taking first place among Moscow's rayons in the provision of amenities.

Vorotnikov Visit to Buryat ASSR Detailed

PM2605090988 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 May 88 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report under the headline "Stay in Buryatiya and Irkutsk Oblast"]

[Text] Ulan-Ude, 21 May—V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, saw for himself the progress of restructuring in the Transbaykal republic during his visit to the Buryat ASSR 18-21 May. In the course of meetings with labor collectives from industrial and agrarian enterprises, he emphasized the need for a more decisive turn toward production intensification and broad introduction of economic methods of management. The chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers visited the Order of the Labor Red Banner aviation plant and the Lenin Komsomol Fine Cloth Combine in Ulan-Ude. Attention in conversations with workers and engineers at these enterprises focused on questions of improving output quality and implementing social programs. A detailed conversation on experience of work in conditions of lease contracts took place at a meeting with machine operators at "Unegeteyskaya," Buryatiya's first agro-firm. It was noted that the new forms of labor organization help to shape people's sense of stewardship and nurture their responsibility for restructuring. Ways to achieve a sharp boost in stock raising and the sector's transition to intensive technologies were discussed at the

"Ivolginskoye" Experimental Production Farm under the Buryat Scientific Research Institute of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences Siberian Department.

A meeting between V.I. Vorotnikov and the autonomous republic's party-economic aktiv was held at the Buryat CPSU Obkom 19 May. Addressing the participants in the meeting, he said in particular:

This trip to Buryatiya was prompted primarily by a desire to find out in more detail how restructuring is developing in the remote Transbaykal region and how your republic has begun implementing the long-term state program for the comprehensive development of productive forces in the Far East Economic Region, the Buryat ASSR, and Chita Oblast.

The speaker recalled that one of the central tasks of developing the Buryat ASSR's productive forces is the acceleration of the pace at which deposits of mineral raw materials are opened up, the comprehensive processing of these raw materials, and the intensification of the republic's specialization in this sphere. Exploration and prospecting work will be expanded. Another task is to create a firm base for machine building whose output would meet modern demands and take into account the Transbaykal region's specific conditions. It is envisaged to reconstruct and retool a number of major industrial enterprises. There will be faster development of the transport network, especially in newly opened up regions.

The long-term program envisages a corresponding strengthening of the material and technical base of Buryatiya's agro-industrial complex, and this will create conditions for fully satisfying the needs of the republic's population for potatoes and locally grown vegetables and for raising the level of supplies of livestock products. In order to solve this task, the growth rate of production of potatoes, livestock and poultry, and milk and eggs in the year 2000 must increase by a factor of 1.7-1.9 against the level achieved in 1985, and the growth rate of vegetable production must increase by a factor of 2.4.

In other words, the long-term program opens up the broadest of horizons for Buryatiya. In order to implement it and to ensure the republic's dynamic and comprehensive development, party, soviet, and economic organs have to solve large-scale and complex tasks. [Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 22 May in its First Edition carries on page 2 a TASS report on Vorotnikov's visit, under the headline "Meetings in Buryatiya." The PRAVDA version adds the following sentence: "Via united and purposeful actions we must ensure Buryatiya's transformation into a region with highly developed industry and flourishing agriculture."]

It is against these prospects, the chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers went on to stress, that we must measure every new step along the main avenues of economic restructuring. Turning to some of the results of the national economy's work in January-April of this year, he noted that we must not rest content with the apparently satisfactory basic general indicators. Intensive factors of growth continue to be poorly incorporated in work. The process of improving the economy's financial health is progressing with difficulty. There has been no breakthrough as regards improving the quality of manufactured output.

In this context the speaker emphasized the importance of constant and specific concern for the retooling of production and the acceleration of scientific and technical progress. Only on this basis will it be possible to achieve a qualitatively new state of our economy.

Much attention was devoted in the speech to an analysis of the present stage of the radical economic reform and the difficulties and contradictions arising as a consequence of the coexistence of old administrative methods and new economic methods of management.

The main point now, the chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers stressed, is to make literally every working person aware of the creative and enterprising meaning of economic accountability. Things will not get moving until every worker and peasant is really convinced of the advantage and durability of the new economic mechanism.

This very subject was the topic of a frank and agitated conversation at last Friday's meeting at the CPSU Central Committee with workers from contract colectives in the agro-industrial complex. Enthusiastic proponents of family and lease contracts in the agro-industrial complex are achieving results which arouse sincere admiration. But this "economic miracle" has an entirely material basis: People's unfettered initiative, real and weighty incentives for labor, natural acumen, and thorough knowledge of the work. I had an opportunity to meet such wonderful working people also in Buryatiya. It is important to ensure that all party and soviet workers and economic leaders realize that the fate of the economic reform, the fate of restructuring, is decided right there, at the grassroots link, in the primary labor cell.

It is evident that the practical work of party committees and soviet organs also needs a corresponding "redeployment." It must be resolutely switched to the labor collectives and it must assist in every possible way the growth of people's awareness, their labor and social activeness and the development of their creative initiative, enterprise, and resourcefulness.

V.I. Vorotnikov went on to critically analyze the state of affairs regarding the Buryat ASSR's fulfillment of the paramount tasks of restructuring in the economic sphere. The most vital and most immediate of these tasks, the speaker emphasized, is the implementation of the Food Program.

During the current 5-year plan period, compared with the 11th 5-Year Plan period, both the RSFSR and Buryatiya have increased the production of agricultural output. A certain stability has emerged in boosting stock raising output, and the consumption of livestock products has increased. Even so, however, the agrarian sector's development rates fall short of the basic task set by the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum—to resolutely improve the supply of foodstuffs for the population within 2-3 years.

Over the last few years Buryatiya has achieved a certain growth in the production of grain, vegetables, meat, milk, and eggs. But to put it bluntly, this growth is extremely insignificant. The average annual production of potatoes on all categories of farms increased by only 2 percent in 1986-1987 compared with the 11th 5-Year Plan period. Totally unsatisfactory use is made of such a reserve as cultivating vegetables under cover.

There is no need to look far for the reasons behind the prevailing situation with regard to potato and vegetable production. These reasons are local, so to speak. Only 4 percent of the area sown to potatoes is taken up by high-grade varieties, and intensive technologies are applied on insignificant areas. And it is a total disgrace when there are no facilities to store and process produce which has been cultivated or shipped thousands of kilometers.

Stock raising, the basic sector of the republic's agriculture, is facing an uphill struggle. Livestock productivity on kolkhozes and sovkhozes is growing only slowly and remains extremely low. This applies to sheep raising in particular. Over 2 years ago, the speaker recalled, the RSFSR Council of Ministers examined the question of serious shortcomings in the work of Buryat ASSR soviet and agricultural organs on the development of sheep raising on kolkhozes and sovkhozes. But to this day there have been no major changes in this sector which is traditional for the autonomous republic.

Efficient measures are not being taken to fundamentally retool the processing industry. Many enterprises in the sector are located in makeshift delapidated premises. Due attention is not being paid to introducing low-waste and waste-free technologies and to profound and comprehensive processing of livestock raw material. [The PRAVDA version deletes preceding two sentences]

It is impossible to go on working like this, the chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers said. It is a matter of honor for Buryatiya's party, soviet, and economic organs to take efficient and decisive measures aimed at boosting the production and improving the storage and processing of agricultural output. This is how the Central Committee poses the question: Immediate and extraordinary measures are needed on every farm and in every rayon to awaken people's interest, raise labor productivity, and increase the production of all types of output. It is a matter of the broadest possible introduction of family and lease contracts and the development of subsidiary farms under enterprises and organizations; in other words the mobilization of literally all reserves of agricultural production.

Then the discussion turned to the need to boost consumer goods production. Here too, the speaker noted, you appear to have perfectly satisfactory figures as regards the fulfillment of the plans. But what is the good of indicators if goods are clearly in short supply and this is bluntly said by people at meetings. [The PRAVDA version adds: "There is no secret here. Buryatiya's per capita consumer goods production last year amounted to just 49 percent of the RSFSR level. A level which, in turn, is in no way satisfactory."]

We must obviously start talking about new and bolder approaches toward resolving tasks concerning goods production and the services sphere, about genuine enterprise—inventiveness, if you like—on the part of soviet and economic workers. [The PRAVDA version adds: "It is a matter of organizing the additional manufacture of goods that are in demand by seeking out local and secondary resources and of actively involving scientific research and design organizations in the development of new types and the fundamental improvement of the quality of goods produced for the population."]

The chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers described housing construction as a task of paramount importance for local soviet organs. The situation in Buryatiya in this sector is complex and neglected at the present. A resolute breakthrough is needed here and all available potential will have to be brought into play for this, including the own-resources method, the development of youth housing complexes, and cooperative and individual construction, notably in cities. [The PRAVDA version omits preceding sentence]

V.I. Vorotnikov's speech also examined topical problems of the correlation between the sectorial and territorial principles of economic management. It was stressed that the interests of local soviets and enterprises can only be coordinated more organically on the basis of mutually advantageous economic cooperation and also the gradual introduction into the work of local soviets of elements of economic accountability. The time is near, the speaker stressed, when not only enterprises but also whole rayons will switch to economic accountability. We must make preparations for this now by accumulating and "building" relevant experience. [The PRAVDA version omits preceding three sentences]

In his speech the chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers touched on a wide range of problems concerning the preparations for the 19th party conference and shared his opinions about ways for our society's further democratization, guarantees of the irreversibility of the process of restructuring, and the overcoming of obstacles in the way of renewal. The Communist Party's role as political vanguard of the Soviet people grows even

further in the conditions of restructuring, the speaker emphasized. Now it is an exceptionally important task to democratize internal party life and to overcome elements of bureaucratism within the party itself and in the work of its apparatus. And of course, the time has come to demarcate, to separate the functions of party committees and local organs of power.

Soviet people place great hopes in the forthcoming conference, and we all—from the Central Committee Politburo to the obkom and raykom, to the primary party organization bureau—must do everything to justify these hopes and to ensure a profound, keen, and constructive discussion of vital problems concerning the party's activity and the enhancement of its combat capability and its prestige among the masses.

During his stay in East Siberia V.I. Vorotnikov also visited South Yakutiya, where he saw for himself the construction of the Amur-Yakutsk Main Railroad in the Berkakit-Tommot-Yakutsk sector, and production work at the "Neryungrinskiy" open-cut coal mine. In conversations with workers and leaders he asked about the pace and difficulties of this most important construction project, the problems of extracting and processing coking coal, its transportation to consumers, and the introduction of economic accountability and collective contracts.

Specialists from Neryungri's mining enterprises complained about the makers of 180-tonne quarry dump trucks and 20-cubic meter excavators, which have serious defects and are being only slowly updated to suit Yakutiya's extreme conditions. The city's working people told the chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers about the lag in the development of the social and cultural infrastructure and the organization of working people's leisure, and asked that measures be taken to accelerate the construction of housing, kindergartens and creches, schools, cultural and medical institutions, and consumer service enterprises.

V.I. Vorotnikov had a meeting with the party-economic aktiv of the city of Neryungri.

During his tour of the autonomous republic the chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers was accompanied by A.M. Belyakov, first secretary of the Buryat CPSU Obkom; K.K. Shomoyev, chairman of the Buryat ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; and S.N. Buldayev, chairman of the Buryat ASSR Council of Ministers.

V.I. Vorotnikov visited the city of Ust-Kut in Irkutsk Oblast 21 May. He saw for himself the work of the Lensko-Osetrovskiy transport junction. There was discussion of questions of its development in connection with the completion of the Baykal-Amur Main Railroad's construction in 1989 and the satisfaction of the growing freight requirements of isolated areas in the Baykal region and the Yakut ASSR.

The first territorial production complex on the territory of the new main railroad's western sector is taking shape in Irkutsk Oblast. There was discussion of ways to accelerate the opening up of timber and mineral raw material resources and of hydrocarbon raw materials, which will make it possible to improve ecological conditions in the region.

During his tour of the oblast the chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers was accompanied by V.I. Potapov, first secretary of the party obkom, and L.A. Platonov, first deputy chairman of the oblispolkom.

On the same day V.I. Vorotnikov departed Ulan-Ude for Moscow.

Election of Conference Delegates Continues

Latvian Plenum

LD2905222888 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] Elections of delegates to the 19th all-union party conference were held at a plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Latvia in Riga today. The candidates for delegates were asked sharp and fundamental questions by members of the Central Committee. Strict selection was dictated by vital necessity. The Republic's communist party must be represented at the conference by ardent and energetic supporters of restructuring and active communists. The plenum elected 53 delegates to the 19th all-union party conference.

The Plenum was addressed by Comrade Pugo, first secretary of the central committee of the Communist Party of Latvia.

Estonian Plenum

LD3005154488 Moscow Domestic in Russian 1500 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] At a plenum of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee in Tallinn today the Theses of the CPSU Central Committee were discussed and approved and delegates to the 19th all-union party conference were elected. Comrade Vayno, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee, spoke at the plenum.

Sakhalin Obkom Plenum Releases Tretyakov

PM0106142588 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 28 May 88 First Edition p 2

[Report by "our special correspondents": "Sakhalin CPSU Obkom Plenum"]

[Text] Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk—A CPSU obkom plenum was held in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk yesterday. It discussed the question of "letters and statements to the central and local plarty organs and mass media in connection with

the decision of the 10th CPSU Obkom Plenum on the election of delegates to the 19th all-union party conference." A lengthy resolution was adopted on this question.

The plenum took note of P.I. Tretyakov's request to be relieved of his duties as secretary of the Sakhalin party obkom in connection with his retirement for health reasons. It satisfied P.I. Tretyakov's request for the repeal of the CPSU Obkom plenum resolution on his election as a delegate to the 19th all-union party conference.

K.N. Mogilnichenko, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department, took part in the work of the plenum.

Conference Delegate Sagdeyev Interviewed

LD2905085588 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 28 May 88

[Interview with Academician R.Z. Sagdeyev by unidentified correspondent on the "Vremya" newscast; place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Roald Zinnurovich, there is very little time to go before the party conference. Now, of course, a very eager and turbulent discussion about how restructuring is going is taking place. What is your view on this?

[Sagdeyev] In my view, there are serious problems here. We are still talking about there being a braking mechanism at work, about there being opposition. However, we transfer all of this talk to the plane of abstract criticism, as if trampling on the grave of the anonymous bureaucrat. In this regard, I think, the Academy of Sciences is far from being a positive example. At one time we were proud of the democratic nature of our statute, our way of life. Yet now it emerges that in fact during the years of stagnation, the Academy of Sciences was developing into a pretty conservative institution. It seems to me that everything is clear here: You must simply open the way for young people.

[Correspondent] I think you were recently nominated to be a delegate to the party conference. I have two questions for you in connection with this. First, how were the elections held in your institution. And second, what words and ideas will you be taking to the party conference?

[Sagdeyev] The elections were not quite the usual run of the mill ones. The party meetings, plus nonparty members of our collectives, called for the election procedure to be changed, because our institute was not included in the groups from which delegates were to be nominated. Well, eventually this was done in conjuction with the rayon party committee. As far as I can judge, nomination of candidates to be delegates in many places is most peculiar; people act as if they are sharing out "gold dust" tickets. This way of doing things, this sort of approach just cannot guarantee us success in restructuring.

As for the conference itself and the hopes which many of us have placed in it—which all of all have placed in it—I think that a unique opportunity is being given to us to sum up the experience of the struggle for restructuring which has been accumulated over the last 2 or 3 years, and, in the final analysis, to make some sort of important decisions which will unblock progress ahead, such as transformations in management, enhancing the role of the local soviets. In the final analysis, I think that for many decades we failed to understand correctly the role of party organizations and party organs. We very often forced these organs to engage in petty tutelage, instead of tackling what is essentiually the main task, that of showing our society the way ahead. For this, I think, we need the new way of thinking.

[Correspondent] I fear that what usually happens might come about: Everything that is in short supply is exported and nothing is left for the country. What I have in mind is that the new thinking is being exported with a great deal of success: We would like there to be more new thinking at home too.

'Secrecy' at Party Aktiv Meeting Deplored

PM2905174388 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 May 88 First Edition p 2

[Norilsk city newspaper ZAPOLYARNAYA PRAVDA editor Zh. Dunayeva "Rejoinder": "Those Invited Can Be Free"]

[Text] A party kraykom plenum was held in Krasnoyarsk yesterday to discuss two important questions—the results of the CPSU Central Committee February Plenum and elections of delegates to the 19th all-union party conference. We, the editors of rayon, city, and okrug newspapers, were very pleased to receive—probably for the first time in history—invitations to such an illustrious party forum discussing questions of such vital importance for the kray's inhabitants. Apart from us, Krasnoyarsk Kray party, soviet, and trade union officials had been invited to attend. Some of them did not forget to avail themselves of the right of the "free microphone" and made a number of practical suggestions and proposals.

However, the following turn of events took us aback. It happened just before the plenum participants passed on to the discussion of the second question. After the break only people whose invitations were printed in red were allowed to return to the hall. All the other invitations were printed in black "prohibitive" ink.

It is easy to imagine the sense of grievance felt by many members of the party aktiv. Why were we not allowed to witness, or even take part in the discussion of the candidacies to the country's highest party forum? This is

all the more strange since the CPSU Central Committee Theses for the 19th all-union party conference which have just been published state clearly and specifically that it is necessary to wage a struggle inside the party against unjustified secrecy in party life.

Course of Conference Delegate Elections Viewed

PM0106131788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Jun 88 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Mandates of Restructuring Will Be Observed by Delegates in the Work of the 19th All-Union Party Conference"]

[Text] The day when the 19th all-union party conference will open in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses in Moscow draws ever nearer. Communists and society as a whole place great hopes in it. Hence the sincere and active interest of millions of Soviet people in ensuring that it is more thoroughly prepared and successfully held beneath the banner of deepening restructuring and democratization in all spheres. This is especially vividly demonstrated in the process of forming its complement of delegates, which is now nearing its conclusion.

It is noteworthy that, immediately following the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum, which adopted the resolution to convene the conference, PRAVDA started receiving letters from our readers on the subject of who ought to be elected for it and how. What if, some readers worried, supporters of stagnation and party members with wavering or shaky positions are elected as delegates? What is the point, others asked reasonably, of having the old familiar "extras" whose participation in formulating crucial decisions will be limited to just raising their hands en bloc?... It was thus, in an atmosphere of sharp polemics which still continue at local level today, in the course of discussing the CPSU Central Committee Theses for the conference, that the overall picture of the conference delegates emerged and more and more details were added to it.

But who are these people who enjoy the confidence of party organizations and labor collectives? What are the distinguishing qualities of these Communists? Now that the names of many of them are already known, one can conclude: They will observe the mandates of restructuring during the conference's work! The attitude toward restructuring—this is the touchstone which today nerringly defines who is who. And people perceive the delegates as genuine and active champions of restructuring. Fighters for restructuring. Foremen of restructuring.

Among the delegates there are quite a few Communists famous throughout the country. This fame was gained not through high official status or ringing speeches, but through selfless work for the common benefit and implacability toward routine, conservatism, and empty talk. Take construction worker N. Travkin for example. The tribulations that befell this enthusiast for full economic accountability in the construction industry in his struggle against overt and covert adherents of the old forms of work! Attempts were made to settle scores with this "troublemaker" and if not to discredit then at least to "slow down" the innovator by means of controllers' bureaucratic tricks and demagogical criticism. They failed.... Having started work "at the bottom," in a matter of a few years Nikolay Travkin built up a career in the best sense of the word—just 1 year ago, when he took part in the memorable conference at the CPSU Central Committee on questions of fundamentally restructuring economic management, he was a trust manager, but now he is deputy chief of the Moscow Oblast Main Administration for Housing and Civil Construction. A deserved recognition!

The reliable mainstay of restructuring are Communists who persistently march along the path of introducing modern methods of economic management, the path of renewal of our entire life. Primary party organizations and labor collectives are on their side. For example, conference delegate Ya. Kukoba has worked for 25 years at the Kirov Machine Tool Building Plant in Mukachevo, which is in Transcarpathian Oblast. People used to say about him: Quite a good and capable engineer. And that was all. And yet—surely not by accident?—he was entrusted with the post of director at the very start of restructuring. And suddenly an exceptional organizational talent emerged before the collective's very eyes. A talent that includes economic enterprise, a specialist's perspicacity, and the ability to find a common language with partners abroad.

A principled, enterprising, and restless Communist capable of thinking and acting in a non-routine fashion—such testimonials were and still are being heard during the discussion of nominations for the conference. These are gratifying signs. After all, it is a question of people who were usually called, and are even now still called by people who evidently fear their pressure, "disturbers of the peace."

Striving to implement the line of the selection by the whole people of candidates for election as delegates to the all-union party conference with the participation of party organizations, labor collectives, raykoms, and gorkoms, many obkoms, kraykoms, and union republic Communist Party central committees have taken a clear-cut and open stance. But it seems that this work has not been treated with due responsibility everywhere. Some committees, as shown by alarming reports from local level, continue to act in the old fashion: They pay lipservice to full democratization in forming the delegations, but are really in favor of halfhearted or altogether sham democratization. They say "No quotas!" from the rostrum, but in reality make titanic efforts to "railroad through" the candidates agreed upon in advance by the apparatus quietly behind closed office doors.

"Ivan Kudinov was the candidate for delegate to the 19th party conference nominated by Altay writers," a group of Communist writers writes from Barnaul, for

example. "But the raykom produced its own nominee. Many efforts were made by bureau members and by the raykom first secretary personally, but nevertheless the rayon aktiv voted for I. Kudinov rather than for their nominee. Then we saw the newspaper with the list of those elected to attend the conference. Our candidate's name was nowhere to be seen. Never mind, presumably he hadn't 'made it.' But suddenly we saw the name of the man against whose nomination the rayon aktiv had voted so unambiguously. We thought that Gorkom First Secretary Yu. Zhiltsov would explain everything. We understood nothing from his 'explanations.' Apart from just one point: There is, he said, a 'quota.'" Indignant telegrams and telephone calls are pouring in from the Kama Truck Plant. Its 130,000-strong collective nominated Party Committee Secretary N. Galiullin as candidate delegate. But the plant workers saw the name of the party gorkom first secretary in the list of delegates.

Against the background of people's growing political and civic activeness, the attempts to get open party meetings over and done with as swiftly as possible and then to stage manage obkom plenums looked strange, to say the least. Why, PRAVDA readers ask in perplexity, is the apparatus playing these games? Indeed, "games with democracy" serve no purpose. Indeed, they are harmful and opposed to restructuring in nature and spirit.

Reflecting on the peculiarity of today's situation in society, M.S. Gorbachev remarked: "It is as if the gates to a new and unusual living space have opened before us." The accuracy of the guidelines to the still unexplored paths of restructuring will depend largely on the delegates to the 19th all-union conference.

'Backstage Games' Over Delegates Deplored

PM2505100188 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 25 May 88 p 2

[Article by "LITERATURNAYA GAZETA'S Sociopolitical Life Department" under the rubric "Toward the 19th All-Union Party Conference": "Once Again About the Election of Conference Delegates. Has Anything Changed?"—boldface italics as published]

[Text] ***The principles would appear to be clear: No appointment by order. The main political directive is to elect active champions of restructuring for the conference. The CPSU Central Committee said that the selection of nominees must without fail involve the participation of party organizations and labor collectives; in other words it must be on a nationwide basis. Meanwhile, reports are coming in that nominations are taking place, more often than not, according to the canons of the stagnation times.***

LITERATURNAYA GAZETA's own correspondent in Latvia G. Tselms reports: "Following conversations with the secretaries of Riga's four largest enterprises—the State Electrical Equipment Plant, "Radiotekhnika," the Riga Electrical Machine Building Plant, and "Kommutator"—one could draw this conclusion: The candidates were not elected but selected. True enough, raykoms did not appear to exert any formal 'pressure,' but they did indicate without undue persistence that a collective ought to be represented by, say, a young Latvian woman worker. And someone was sought to fit the mold."

Our correspondent in the Ukraine S. Kiselev reports: "One-third of delegates from the Kiev Oblast party organization were not nominated by anyone; they were appointed in advance.... According to the representation norms, the oblast organization should send 32 Communists to Moscow, and there were 42 nominated candidates. It would appear that, in this situation, the competition for election as delegates was well and truly in line with the principles of democratization of the country's social and political life. But the Kiev Obkom Bureau decided otherwise. At its session held 3 days before the plenum, 10 of the 42 nominees were simply 'weeded out.' It is obvious that the election of 32 delegates out of 32 candidates was most reminiscent of a lottery with no losing tickets.... What is the reason for this replacement of genuine democracy by a semblance of democracy? It is simple: 11 delegate mandates were allocated in advance to senior party obkom officials, the chairmen of the oblispolkom and the oblast trade union council, the first secretary of the Komsomol Obkom, and others."

Rather sharp conclusions drawn from similar reports can be frequently seen in the press. But...is anything changing? LITERATURNAYA GAZETA has written twice about the curtain of secrecy that has dropped over the nomination process in Rostov Oblast. But the backstage nomination games continued.

Reflecting on all this, one automatically asks: Will all the genuine leaders of restructuring gather at the conference? Maybe V. Tretyakov, foreman at the Taganrog metallurgical plant, was correct when he wrote to us: "I am profoundly convinced that restructuring now needs monitoring! Party, nationwide monitoring! And definitely independent of local authorities. Bureaucracy is pretty deep-rooted, and an apparatchik will not voluntarily restructure himself. I am against repressions, but I am in favor of monitoring."

We would like, of course, to end on a fact from the public life of literary figures. The nomination of a candidate from the Moscow Writers' Organization was quite a stormy and democratic process. There were nine nominees, and the secret ballot lists contained only the names of G. Baklanov, V. Korotich, Al. Mikhaylov, and Yu. Chernichenko. The discussion lasted 6 hours! According to the ballot results, Yuriy Chernichenko was elected candidate delegate to the conference.

Readers Discuss Party Conference Delegates

18000330 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 7 May 88 p 2

[Letters from readers: "A Word About the Delegate"; first two paragraphs are SOVETSKAYA KULTURA introduction—boldface as published]

[Text] Perhaps none of the letters published under the rubric "The 19th All-Union Conference, I Propose for Discussion" evoked such an ardent response, such a lively readers' participation, as the letter from Yuriy Andreyev, a resident of Leningrad, who was perturbed: Will the elections of delegates to the conference not proceed according to old schemes? ("Before It Is Too Late," SK, 21 April of this year).

Readers share the anxiety of the letter's author, because they connect too-great hopes with the work of the 19th party conference and cannot be indifferent to whom the mandate of its delegate will be handed over. They express their proposals on the procedure of nominating party members.

Without Fail, With His Own Program [subhead]

This conference, which all of us are awaiting, is a party conference and party members should elect its delegates. However, since it is tremendously significant for the entire country, maximally broad sections of the population should take part in its preparation.

They should discuss the candidacies of delegates in their production collectives. Most important of all, **every candidate should express before them his attitude toward the ideological model of society's renewal and promulgate his personal program, with which he goes to the conference.** At the same time, means of mass information and, primarily, television should be activated maximally. The people should see and hear those that will decide their fate.

All this will not only create a guarantee that true supporters of restructuring will get into the conference (because people will be able to compare the candidate's real actions with his words), but, most important of all, will draw millions of people into active political work, which is the basic guarantee of a truly socialist transformation of society.

The fact that people will see and hear strong, talented individuals, for whom their high position—delegates to the fateful party conference—is not a means of receiving special privileges and joining the cohort of the elected, but a means of searching for ways of development that will help the great nation to find its befitting existence, will be the best method of bringing back the people's faith in the ideals of socialism, about which the defenders of Stalinism are so hypocritically concerned.

A great deal depends on how to explain to the people that the path to a sharp improvement in their living conditions is not the "pavement of Nevskiy Prospekt"—it is complicated and difficult. It is also important who will explain this. I often had occasion to see how intensely simple people listened to Mikhail Ulyanov and what a response his publications evoked. The most forcible argument—his splendid human destiny—stands behind his every word.

Three years of restructuring have already given sufficient data to answer the question: Who is who?

Inflated authority burst and the authority of those that at one time did a great deal, but then stopped, resigned themselves to stagnation, and "joined" it, faded. No one intends to deny their past services—this would be immoral. Now, however, those that did not resign themselves, those that marched in the first assault lines of restructuring, should decide the country's fate.

I should very much like to be mistaken, but too much indicates that the opponents of restructuring are getting ready to wage at the conference a decisive battle against the policy of renewal. There are more than enough incentives for this—from the striving engendered by unrestrained social egoism to hold on to one's privileges at any cost to the fear of an honest discussion about the past. This is precisely why I subscribe to Yuriy Andreyev's idea that, not losing a minute, it is necessary to concentrate principal attention on the main question—who will represent our party and our nation at the forum that will have to decide the country's fate.

Ye. Blomkvist, party member, candidate of philosophical sciences, docent at the Department of Marxism-Leninism of the Moscow Higher School of Industrial Art (b. Stroganovskoye), Moscow

Not Officials, But Fighters [subhead]

The results of the elections to people's courts and local soviets, even if in our Rostov Oblast, held in 1987 can be a graphic example of what can happen with the election of delegates to a conference.

As the list of candidates and the list of elected people published in newspapers showed, either managers of different ranks, or young people under the age of 30, who often had no opinions of their own and, when issued were decided, raised their hands, glancing at the authorities, got into both oblast and rayon soviets.

Veterans of the Great Patriotic War and labor veterans, who carried on their shoulders all the difficulties of wartime and the first postwar years, that is, citizens 58 to 80 and older, constitute only a fraction of a percent among the elected deputies of both oblast and rayon soviets. As though we no longer need their life experience and their unblemished work for society is forgotten.

We must not permit a repetition of the experience at the All-Russian Congress of Teachers, to which innovative teachers famous throughout the country were not invited.

I cannot visualize a party conference without the participation in it as delegates of such writers as I. Vasilyev, V. Belov, S. Zyalygin, and V. Rasputin and such journalists

as Yu. Cherinchenko, A. Vorin, and A. Vaksberg, who have been writing in the press on the most urgent issues concerning our society's life for more than a year.

E. Panikas, Rostov Oblast

I Will Not Transfer Trust to Anyone [subhead]

How the forthcoming party conference is prepared, who will be elected as its delegates, how they will be disposed, how the conference will proceed, and what resolutions will be adopted—these are now the chief things in our restructuring. The entire party in the person of all its members should take the preparation for the conference in its hands. This important matter should not be entrusted to the party apparatus alone.

I should not like to create the impression that such a conclusion represents mistrust of the apparatus. No, this is not mistrust, but nontransfer of trust. There are moments, periods, and affairs, when one's duties should not and cannot be entrusted to just anyone. Such a time, such a moment, is now. All of us must manifest awareness and activity so that the conference may provide a strong incentive for a confident course of restructuring.

R. Petropavlovskiy, party member since 1948, Moscow

With Instructions From Party Members [subhead]

The presently adopted model for the formation of the body of delegates creates the danger of a decisive influence of the local party apparatus on this formation. Therefore, I believe that **it is extremely important to carry out openly the process of nominating delegates to the conference. It seems that a list of recommended candidates should be published in advance in the local press.** Possibly, the right to nominate candidates should be granted to big primary party organizations.

In any case control both from below and above is needed so that the body of delegates to the conference, reflecting the diversity of positions of the party mass, does not shift toward the conservative side. In my opinion, it is also reasonable that the basic problems submitted to the conference for discussion be discussed, even if in the form of a summary, in primary party organizations. The delegates to the conference should be informed of the generalized opinion of these organizations. How? Perhaps delegates should be given imperative mandates based on the results of discussions proposed by me? I realize that not much time remains before the conference, but such meetings can be held quite promptly.

L. Liss, party member since 1953, docent at Novosibirsk University, Novosibirsk

Both Supporters and Opponents [subhead]

The words "strictly," "will require," and "unequivocal preference" constantly appear in Yuriy Andreyev's letter about the elections of delegates. What is this? Volitional command methods? This is the beginning of antidemocracy, shutting the opponent's mouth with a big mitten. Some are let into the room for a discussion of complicated problems, while others are not. As yet no one knows who is right: restructurers or antirestructurers.

Glancing at history, no one knows on whose side truth is: on the side of Stalinism, or on the side of Bukharinism.

The discussion should be open and joint—by supporters and opponents. Or is this impossible in politics? **In the single combat there should be humane justice, without knocking out the sword from the opponent's hands.**

Yu. Perfilov, Penza Oblast

Man From the Rayon [subhead]

Less than 2 months remain before the conference, but we, party members, do not know how delegates will be elected to it. Will they again be appointed? Those appointed will vote only for one thing—for preserving the apparatus method of management.

Why should delegates not be elected directly in rayons? Two delegates, only those that work in the rayon and are members of the rayon party organization, not those that work somewhere in Moscow or Kiev and are not familiar with rayon problems, should be elected from 7,000 to 10,000 party members. Thirty percent of the places can be left for managerial personnel, who can be appointed at the discretion of the CPSU Central Committee.

V. Boyko, pensioner, party member, Odessa

I Vote for Journalists [subhead]

I have 40 years of party service. I have been working at one enterprise for 36 years, have not been aloof from party life, and know very well the "kitchen" for nominating delegates to high and not very high forums. As a rule, the nominated workers are people pleasing to the authorities and, moreover, are especially trained by them. Sometimes, according to an order, this is a worker who has long forgotten where his work place is.

I should very much like representatives from every press organ, be it a newspaper or a journal, to be delegates to the all-union party conference, because (in honor of their workers) people turn to them with suggestions and for help and share their doubts and concerns with them, of which, I am confident, unfortunately, not every party committee can "boast."

N. Franeva, Leningrad

Not To Please the Percentage [subhead]

Independently thinking people, the flower and intellect of the nation, not representatives of functioners on the party schedule, should be at the conference. The entire country is familiar with the names of the fighters for restructuring, who think broadly and in a party spirit. Among them, first of all, I would like to mention dramatist A. Gelman, journalists Yu. Chernichenko and Yu. Feofanov, economists O. Lapis and G. Popov, Academicians T. Zaslavskaya and A. Agayagebyan, commentator F. Burlatskiy, writers V. Bykov, D. Granin, M. Shatrov, A. Rybakov, Ye. Yevtushenko, S. Zalygin, V. Korotich, S. Baruadin, G. Vanlanov, A. Ananyev, and I. Vasilyev, actor M. Ulyanov, producer G. Tovstonogov, worker V. Sernkov, historians V. Polikarpov and Yu. Afanasyev, Ivanovo Association director V. Kabayadze, People's Academician T. Maltsev, and kolkhoz chairmen V. Bedulyo and V. Starodubtsev.

It doesn't matter if the usual mechanical representation suffers. To elect, indeed, the conscience of the party is the chief thing.

V. Tseydler, party member since 1946, Ioshkar-Ola

Paragraphs From Letters [subhead]

I should not like the delegates to include someone from former apologists of the "cult of personalty" and "stagnant time," or from present organizers of the publication of the article "I Cannot Waive My Principles," or from those whose shoulders were straightened, whose chests were stuck out, and whose heads were raised by this article for 3 weeks....

Yu. Afanasyev, Moscow

I propose that delegates to the 19th party conference be discussed only at general meetings of enterprise and organization collectives. Their candidacies should be put forward well in advance in order to eliminate formalism in the implementation of such an important measure.

A. Stukalo, Donetsk Oblast

Creation of Official 'Opposition Center' Urged

PM0106190588 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 2 Jun 88 p 3

[G. Dzyuba letter carried as part of full-page feature under rubric "19th All-Union Conference: Beyond the Lines of the CPSU Central Committee Theses"]

[Text] The lack of opposition parties dictates the need to set up a legalized special opposition center whose duties (according to the principle of forensic advocacy) would include the advancing of opposition arguments from the most diverse viewpoints so that the party and civil authorities, in countering them, could gain a clearer view of themselves and not be lulled into the honeyed sleep that ensues when there is unalloyed unanimity and approval to the point of absurdity. Since there is always a department behind any information organ and that organ's objectivity is only relative (departmental), this center must have a press organ of its own or sections in the news media so it can publish its own opinions and those of its opponent. The center's independence could be guaranteed if it were elected by the congress and accountable to the congress. The center could also take on the role of a Central Control Commission. Fertile ground for the center's work could be provided by an "ideas bank" summarizing and monitoring criticisms voiced in letters, as well as by the news media....

G. Dzyuba, Leningrad.

'Extraordinary' CPSU Congress Proposed

PM0206100188 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 2 Jun 88 p 1

[Contribution to "There Is An Opinion!" feature from Candidate of Philosophical Sciences S. Yushenkov: "On Discussion of Questions of Restructuring Public Life"]

[Text] S. Yushenkov, Candidate of Philosophical Sciences, Moscow: [subhead]

The discussion which has developed in the country has created an atmosphere of unusual creative activeness in all strata of society. But the fine ideas which have already been expressed, even if they are approved at the 19th party conference, may remain unrealized. The point is that the conference is not empowered to introduce changes to the Statutes—that is the prerogative of a congress. Yet without organizational backup these ideas may be doomed.

Taking this fact into consideration and also the fact that it is far from everywhere that the delegates to the party conference have been elected by genuinely democratic means, I suggest that the conference discuss the question of convening an extraordinary CPSU congress, the election of delegates to which could be implemented on the platforms set forth by the candidates.

Belorussian Central Committee Plenum Held

PM2605152588 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 14 May 88 p 1

[Unattributed "Information Report on Plenum of Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] The 10th Plenum of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee was held 13 May.

The plenum examined the question "On the tasks of the republic's party organizations to improve public education and to provide ideological backup for restructuring in line with the decisions of the February (1988) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee."

The report was delivered by Ye.Ye. Sokolov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee.

The following took part in the discussion of the report: A.A. Malofeyev, first secretary of the Minsk Belorussian Communist Party Obkom; A.P. Ogarkova, director of the Vysokovskaya secondary school, Kamenetskiy Rayon, and honored teacher of the Belorussian SSR; V.V. Grigoryev, first secretary of the Vitebsk Belorussian Communist Party Obkom; G.I. Savanovich, mining foreman at a Third Ore Administration mine and chairman of the labor collective council of the "Belorusskaliy" production association named for the 50th anniversary of the USSR; A.S. Kamay, first secretary of the Gomel Belorussian Communist Party Obkom; L.S. Shulzhenko, engineer at the Gomel M.I. Kalinin car repair plant and shop party organization secretary; N.N. Mazay, deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers; I.P. Shamyakin, chief editor of the "Belorusskaya Sovetskaya Entsiklopediya" publishing house and people's writer of the Belorussian SSR; A.T. Kichkaylo, chairman of the Mogilev Oblispolkom; I.M. Luchenok, chairman of the board of the Belorussian SSR Composers Union and people's artist of the USSR; A.V. Stepanenko, vice president of the Belorussian SSR Academy of Sciences; M.M. Biryukova, secretary of the Grodno Belorussian Communist Party Obkom; V.I. Goncharik, chairman of the Belorussian Trade Union Council; V.P. Razinkevich, first secretary of the Slonim Belorussian Communist Party Gorkom; V.V. Gurin, first secretary of the Belorussian Komsomol Central Committee; A.M. Lazovskiy, secretary of the Uglovskiy Sovkhoz, Vitebskiy Rayon, party committee.

A resolution was adopted on the question discussed.

An organizational question was examined. The following were released in connection with their reassignment: N.T. Gulev from his duties as chief of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Light Industry and Consumer Goods Department; M.I. Demchuk from his duties as chief of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Science and Educational Institutions Department; and A.I. Trutnev from his duties as chief of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Heavy Industry Department.

V.V. Ryabov, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Science and Educational Institutions Department, who delivered a speech, and P.I. Nadolishniy, instructor of the CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Department, took part in the plenum's work.

Ye.Ye. Sokolov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, spoke in conclusion.

Families Allowed To Emigrate After Summit
AU0106194188 Paris AFP in English 1912 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow, June 1 (AFP)—Soviet authorities have marked the fourth superpower summit by giving 28 Jewish refusenik families permission to emigrate, a refusenik spokesman told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE Wednesday. But the group includes none of the refuseniks who met with President Ronald Reagan at a reception Monday at the U.S. ambassador's residence, Yuliy Kosharovskiy said.

"The Soviet Union does not want to appear to be yielding to pressure," said Mr. Kosharovskiy, representing the refuseniks at the meeting. He added that of the three refuseniks known to him on a list of 14 human rights cases raised by Mr. Reagan with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, none were among the 28 families authorized to leave. "The hope remains that other refuseniks will later be allowed to emigrate and that the situation will be normalized, even though nothing has been promised in this respect," he said.

Mr. Kosharovksiy earlier met with Undersecretary of State for Human Rights Richard Shifter.

'Greens' Movement Formed in Estonia
LD0106201488 Moscow TASS in English 0419 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Tallinn June 1 [dateline as received]—ETA correspondent Endrek Linsalu writes:

Young people in gas masks marched past Saturday through narrow streets of Tartu, the olden city in Estonia, the seat of the university. An unusual demonstration whose participants called for action against environmental pollution, for purity of the air, has become another action of the Estonian Greens movement founded a week ago, on May 23. The organization's regulations say that this is a democratic radical independent movement of citizens called upon to help save life from an ecological catastrophe.

Though the Greens program virtually does not differ from similar programs in other countries, many people in Estonia view it not just as a campign for enviromental protection but also as an opportunity to state freely their views about burning issues related to the ecological situation.

"And a lot of such questions has accumulated," holds member of the movement's board Tiit Made [name as received]. "The development of phosphorites deposits in the north west of Estonia, the pollution of resort coasts, the activity of industrial enterprises harmful for the environment—all these problems require close attention and vigorous intervention of Estonian people. As you see, ecological matters are closely related to economic ones, and their solution requires of us not only solid knowledge but also the ability to act on the laws of democratic society."

The Greens have already scored the initial success: it is precisely on the initiative of the Estonian public that the development of phosphorite deposits has been halted.

And this case is not an exception. Perhaps Nordic restraint is no longer such a characteristic trait of the Estonian character. There are heated debates every evening in overcrowded halls. Citizens movements and organisations mushroom and start playing an ever greater role on the republic's socio-political scene.

Ukraine Church Reestablishment Urged

LD3005171388 Vatican City International Service in German 1400 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] A report from Lvov and Rome: Ukraine Catholic activists in the Western Ukraine began a large collection of signatures for the readmission of their church, which is banned in the Soviet Union. This was confirmed by the Committee for the Defense of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in an official document to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet. The document calls for the official reestablishment of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, which was incorporated in the Orthodox Church in 1946.

News Conference Held on Church Millennium

LD2605110188 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 25 May 88 p 4

[Zh. Tkachenko article: "On Threshold of Memorable Date"]

[Text] Kiev—"The millennium of Russia's Christianization is not just a historical date but also yet another opportunity to interpret our history and the church's contribution to the development of Russian statehood, culture, architecture, and music and to other spheres of spiritual life," Metropolitan Filaret of Kiev and Galich, patriarchal exarch of the Ukraine, stressed at a press conference in Kiev.

Many Christians abroad consider the jubilee of the Russian church to be their own jubilee, the Metropolitan said to media representatives. For this reason scientific symposiums, church services, conferences, sermons, exhibitions, and concerts are being held in various countries.

We are very alarmed by mankind's gradual slide toward spiritual aridity: not only the spread of vice, drunkenness, drug addiction, and spiritual emptiness, but many other phenomena, for example, a consumerist attitude to life. The jubilee will remind us how our ancestors lived, how the people's spirit helped them not simply to survive and endure during historic cataclysms, but to create great cultural values.

Metropolitan Filaret explained that the main celebrations will be held in Vladimir, Kiev, Moscow, Leningrad, and also in all eparchies, parishes, and deaneries. There will be a regional synod in the Troitsa-Sergiyeva Monastery, festivities at the Bolshoy Theater, and a solemn liturgy in the Danilov Monastery. An open-air service will be held in Kiev on Vladimir Hill by the Prince Vladimir memorial.

We greatly value the historic meeting with M.S. Gorbachev, which took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere. And also the conversation [with him], which discussed the concerns of our church hierarchy and the new legislation determining church-state relations which accord with the present level of society's development.

Commission To Probe Brezhnev Era Suggested

PM2905153188 Moscow ARGUMENTY I FAKTY in Russian No 22, 28 May-3 Jun 88 (Signed to Press 26 May 88) p 2

[Reader's letter by I. Bondarev: "The Country Must Also Know Its Antiheroes"]

[Text] I propose the setting up of a commission, similar to the CPSU Central Committee Politburo Commission for further study of materials connected with the repressions of the thirties, forties, and early fifties, to conduct a study of the period of "stagnation." It is necessary to name those who are to blame for the breakdown of the economy and agriculture and the nonfulfillment of the Food Program. To explain who is to blame for the premature death of a number of figures of culture and science, and who drove Tarkovskiy, Lyubimov, and others to emigration. The country must also know its antiheroes.

What was the role of Brezhnev's closest assistants in bringing the country's economy to what M.S. Gorbachev called a pre-crisis situation.

This must be explained without fail so as to struggle with negative phenomena today and prevent them in the future.

I. Bondarev, Fryazino, Moscow Oblast

Analyst on Employment, Relocation, Retraining

LD2905190188 Moscow TASS in English 1652 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 29 TASS—TASS news analyst Boris Prokhorov writes:

The restructuring of the economy under way in the Soviet Union now is aimed at making the economy more effective. Equipment is being modernized, technological processes perfected, management simplified, and so on. All this leads to a reduction of the number of workers and managerial staff. But does this mean, as it is asserted in the West, that people in the Soviet Union are threatened with unemployment? Let us consider this question proceeding from real facts, not assumptions. For the

modernisation of production has already been started and several thousand people were relieved of their posts in the USSR last year. What has been their lot?

Statistics show that no one has become jobless. Some people took advantage of their right to retire on pension. The pensionable age for men in the USSR starts with 60 years of age, for women with 55. Several ways of employment have been offered to other people which entailed upgrading of skills or learning other skills, more in need at present. It should be noted that one can take such courses at the expense of enterprises while receiving the average wages at the previous work place.

As a result of this, the country received last year an additional number of workers with the necessary skills, while those who have been relieved of their jobs found employment at other work places, sustaining no material losses as a rule.

This, certainly, does not mean that everybody is quite pleased. Not everybody, particularly among those who are older, are psychologically prepared to take courses and change work place. [sentence as received] And in future too, there will apparently be people who will be displeased as relieving workers en masse and consequently their mass relocation has just started. Three million people will be relieved of their jobs in 1988-1990, and their number will reach 16 million by the year 2000. It is not an easy task to provide employment for such numbers of people. But this task is quite feasible in conditions of economic planning. The mechanism of its solution was formulated in a special government decree adopted early this year.

One might ask how new work places can be created. There are quite a number reserves [as received]. One of them is operating equipment for a greater number of hours per day. As a rule machinery in the USSR now operates for less than 1.5 shifts. The task has been set to bring this index to two shifts and for some kind of equipment for three shifts a day. This alone will provide the employment for large numbers of people. Another reserve is the area of services which is not sufficiently developed so far. Less than 20 per cent of the able bodied population is employed in this area in the USSR, while in the USA—over 50 per cent. Millions of people can additionally be employed in the area of services to remedy the situation. And how many people—workers and specialists in every area—are needed to develop the virtually untapped resources of Siberia, the north and the Far East of the USSR.

Decree on Improving Veterans' Care Viewed

LD2805020788 Moscow TASS in English 2253 GMT 27 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS—"It is our duty to show care for the aged who devoted the best years in their life to the establishment and development of Soviet state," Kirill Mazurov, chairman of the All-Union War and Labour Veterans Council, said here today. Addressing journalists he commented on the decree adopted the other day by the Soviet Government and the Central Council of Soviet Trade Unions about additional measures to improve the conditions of the life of veterans.

The standard of material ensurance of pensioners, disabled persons and participants in war, families of servicemen killed at war enhanced considerably in the past years, Mazurov said. Some 1,200 homes were opened for single veterans, for instance. And the problem of social services and daily amenities for the aged and disabled persons still remains acute. This applies particularly to housing conditions, to supply with food products and industrial goods.

The decree envisages that all war-disabled persons and families of servicemen killed at war be given a self-contained flat or house by the end of the five-year plan period (1986-1990). Trade and daily amenities for the aged will be improved: Special stores for them will be opened, inexpensive consumer goods will be manufactured and the supply of dietetic foods ensured.

The benefits for participants in the war will apply also to persons decorated with orders and medals of the USSR for selfless work and faultless service on the home front. They will, specifically, earn the right to a 20-percent increment to the old-age pension.

New Draft Penal Code Formulated

LD3005094788 Moscow TASS in English 0922 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 30 TASS—A number of changes are planned to be introduced in the draft fundamentals of the USSR penal code drawn up today, including a considerable reduction of cases in which a death sentence is to be passed, the exclusion of exile and deportation from the penal code, the reduction of prison terms for adolescents under 16 years of age and a broader use of fines as a punitive measure.

A decree on the court was passed on December 5, 1917, soon after the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution. For the first time ever judges were elected by the people in Russia, and the openness of court sessions was guaranteed. There are 4,844 courts in the USSR today with a staff of 5,721 judges and 850,000 assessors.

One of the main tasks of courts in the USSR is to protect the rights of citizens. Most of 3 million civil cases tried in Soviet courts annually are connected with it. The law on the order of appealing to court in connection with illegal actions of officials that infringe upon citizens' rights has been in effect in the USSR since January 1, 1988.

Changes in the USSR penal code will be connected, among other things, with punishment for crimes involving damage inflicted on natural environment and the violation of safety rules during the use of atomic energy.

The order of the administration of justice will also be changed. Lawyers will be given more rights, especially on the initial stage of pretrial investigation.

Horrors of Polar Labor Camp Life Recalled
PM3005140188 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 88 p 4

[Article by paper's correspondent N. Savelyev, under the rubric "Lessons of History": "No Return There: The Railroad Leading to Nowhere Became a Tragic Symbol of an Era Gone Forever"]

[Text] Igarka-Kureyka-Krasnoyarsk—It was a long journey, and we therefore set out early, at 6 am. The day was bright and quiet, with absolutely no one around. Snow began to fall 20 minutes after we set out. It was so heavy that the road could not be seen more than 10 meters ahead and the headlights of the other Belaz truck were only dimly visible in our sideview mirror. I already knew that one should not set out in winter, as a rule, with fewer than two vehicles. Turning off the road and getting lost in the tundra on your own or getting stuck halfway held little attraction even if it was the end of April. Viktor, the driver, started cursing almost as soon as the snow began. Every kilometer traveled seemed to make him angrier.

As soon as the vehicle reached an exposed area, unprotected by trees, the wind beat on the cab like a thing possessed. The Belaz began to skid. The road had innumerable ups and downs. I no longer looked at my watch or counted the kilometers. The hope that I would reach Igarka that day had almost disappeared. And, as is usual in such cases, I feared the worst.

The snowstorm ended as suddenly as it had begun. We had covered 80 km in 6 hours. Less than half the journey remained.

The track suddenly opened up. It ran straight as an arrow, bounded by small pines and squat cedars, disappearing somewhere on the horizon.

"There is the 'Stalinka,'" Viktor said. "It's real hard going from now on! There are no rails or sleepers up to Sukharikka...."

We should have crossed our fingers and knocked on wood. We hit the thawed upper crust of ice almost immediately. Sinking into the ice, the truck vainly sought for traction and the engine overrevved noisily. We then put down gravel (which we had prudently loaded back at the settlement). But all in vain. Then, finally, after an hour of torment, the vehicle, through some kind of miracle, scrambled back onto firm road. We put our foot down in an effort to make up for the lost time. But if luck is not on your side.... The edge of the road merged with the tundra, and the contours dissolved and became blurred and deceptive. The vehicle began to swing smoothly to the left at speed: Its front sank back into the mud and the whole chassis ended up across the road. We both swore at the same time and jumped down from the cab. It all had to be started again from scratch: Throwing down gravel, clearing away snow, and hauling on the cable.

"I've had enough of this mud bath," Kolek, the driver of the second Belaz, said in exasperation. "Let's brew some tea, I can't go on."

It was freezing. It was probably at least 20 degrees below zero. And this was just before May Day.

"Why is the great transpolar main railroad so unwelcoming, why is only the 'Stalinka' in use? I very much wanted to see it, the secret Construction Project 503 from 1948. I wanted to travel through those sad, tragic places of the great past...."

In 1949 these northern areas bristled with camps, although there had been no shortage of them here even before: Thousands of prisoners built the Norilsk mining and metallurgical combine. Thousands of specially resettled people (mainly peasants forcibly removed from their native villages) had built the port of Igarka and a timber combine. But 1949 saw a special, unprecedented "communist construction project" designed to incarnate the idea of the father of all peoples. The idea of a transcontinental main railroad, a kind of counterpart to the northern sea route, through the whole of Siberia, with a ferry crossing of the Bering Straits, arose as early as the Great Patriotic War. The plans then changed. The Salekhard-Igarka railroad (running for 1,263 km) was to be the first big stage of the project. Its commissioning would ensure that Norilsk's industrial output could be sent out throughout the year. The railroad was then to go via Kolyma and Chukotka, following the river valleys of the Nizhnyaya Tunguska, Vilyuy, Aldan, and Indigirka.

With Stalin's authorization, Project 503 was generously financed. Detainees—political prisoners held under Article 58 and common criminals, all with a sentence of at least 10-15 years—were dispatched there in unlimited numbers.

The intention was to build a new, trailblazing, single-track railroad with 28 stations, each 40-50 km apart. Two ferries were ordered from abroad for the crossing of the Ob and the Yenisey. The track was laid across an icy, permafrost-bound wasteland. In winter it is 60 degrees below zero and there are horrendous blizzards, while in summer it is all mosquitoes and peat bogs. Everything was built by hand. One further interesting detail. Only the general direction of the track was chosen when construction work began. The technical plan was not presented for approval until 1942, when a considerable part of the railroad had already been built. Trains began running from Salekhard to Nadym in August 1952. Full completion of the railroad needed several years more and...perhaps a new wave of repressions to provide a fresh work force.

The year 1953 drastically changed life not only in Moscow but also in the polar region. Construction work was suspended, the camps eliminated, and people hastened home. Complete sets of carriages, track, and locomotives were abandoned on the "dead railroad," as it would be christened a little later in those parts (only a small stretch of it is currently used. The question of its utilization is raised from time to time—N.S.). But how many people were lost in snowstorms, how many had their lives ruined?! Who knows? There is no accountant on earth capable of calculating all this.

Helicopter pilot V.M. Sokol says: "It's grim walking through those abandoned camps. Each hut had its hiding places. Prisoners' letters could be found beneath every plank. It is impossible to convey what they contain. I remember finding a box containing letters written by a political prisoner. For 12 years the man wrote home daily. I don't know what happened to him or why these letters were all together. Either the prisoner himself kept them together in the hope of some day reading them to people or one of those in charge at the camp who was fond of the epistolary genre simply collected this novel in letters."

Leopold Antonovich Baranovskiy, a respected inhabitant of Igarka (who as a 14-year-old ended up in 1940 in a special settlement on the banks of the Yenisey), worked in an industrial combine. He recalled many distinguished doctors and scientists and leaders of major enterprises who after 12-14 years of imprisonment were still serving exile in those spots. For years on end they knew nothing about their families. They found some help and support in Baranovskiy. It is no wonder that today he still receives friendly letters from every corner of the country. He could speak of many things: News from the camps was constantly causing a stir in Igarka after the war. Once sailors from a ship imprisoned for some offense or other organized a fierce fight in the camp. Together with the political prisoners, they fought against the criminals, and won. But they were soon split up in different camps. Their subsequent fate was tragic. There were women's camps too, which had their own special way of life. The camp administration for Project 503 was located in the settlement of Yermakovo. Neither before nor since has Baranovskiy ever seen such a splendid library as that possessed by the workers in the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs. Signed copies of the works of Chekhov and Tolstoy, volumes of poetry by Sergey Yesenin, and books on art and history—all of it confiscated from those arrested. Baranovskiy has tried to track down the library for many years, but unsuccessfully. Incidentally, there were bright moments in this existence, when some evening the most talented artists were brought to the Igarka Dramatic Theater under escort. And while someone was playing and singing on stage, life felt different.

"Political prisoners had a particularly bad time. Most of them died during the first few frosts. And they were treated abominably. They were people without names. The authorities addressed them either by number or nickname. Every camp began with the construction of 'the zone'—watchtowers, barbed wire, and so forth. Only then did they put up accommodations. And how did we sleep during the frosts? We slept around a camp fire. If you made it through to morning roll call, it meant you had survived. Harsh laws prevailed in the camps. Virtually every camp had its 'honest thief.' He didn't work, but with the consent of the camp authorities, meted out justice to offenders and troublemakers. The authorities and escorts in each camp had their own ways. In a camp located by the Taz River offenders were placed under a watchtower. Bloodsucking insects lacerated your face and you dared not budge, for the guard would shoot you from the watchtower without warning. I was once put under the watchtower and thought I would be left without eyes or nose, so excruciating was it. In winter some prisoners put salt in their felt boots so that their feet would get frostbitten and they would get into the infirmary. One poor devil got his feet frostbitten that way, but the authorities found out. During my 5 and 1/2 years on Project 503 I went through 14 camps. When the amnesty was proclaimed in 1953 I remained in Kureyka, where Stalin had served his exile before the revolution. I well remember that they baked white bread in the settlement where his monument stood, whereas we only had black bread. But if you were able to steal out and buy white bread (I even dreamed about it), it was a red-letter day. Even seven years after Stalin's death the whole village would go to the museum and take flowers on festive occasions. That was the way it was." (Extract from a conversation with V.V. Polevoy, inhabitant of Kureyka village.)

People rarely go to the banks of the Yenisey nowadays. The building that stands there is enormous for the northern backwoods, measuring 40 by 50 meters, with a height of at least 14 meters. The pantheon once housed the hut in which Stalin lived. Daylight bulbs hung beneath the ceiling of the immense edifice and the special coloring of the dome simulated the northern lights. Fifty firemen guarded and kept the museum heated day and night throughout the year. Alongside stood a white marble statue, a newspaper held in its hand, which gazed out on all visitors. No one had the right to sail by, since there was a special instruction in force: All ships stopped for 2 hours and the entire crew and every passenger had to go to Him, had to go and lay flowers.

The pantheon was built by prisoners in 1949-1950, by hand, working from dawn to dusk. These included highly skilled workmen. The special construction of the ventilation shafts protected the building against the vagaries of the permafrost. But it has nothing to do there now. In 1961 some highly placed personage called Igarka to say that "he won't be coming back." Secretly, at night, a cable was attached to the stone giant and it was dragged into the Yenisey. When the white marble statue hit the bottom of the river with a dull thud, the inhabitants awoke. But no one came out of doors, they only checked

that the bolts were fast. You merely have to mention that night for people to say: "We were sleeping, we saw nothing." According to eyewitness accounts, for a long time experienced captains altered their course on the river just to avoid sailing over the place where He, His face gazing upward, reposed, inducing a kind of shiver even from the depths of the river. The silt and sand then did their work.

I searched for evidence of Stalin's stay in Igarka's libraries and school regional studies museums. But to no avail. Nor did I find, incidentally, even a single document about the victims of illegality in the polar region. Right towards the end of my trip I laid my hands on the reminiscences of I.S. Soltykov, a peasant. I omit those passages which relate how Stalin would disappear to distant islands for weeks on end, fish for sturgeon, and sing and dance at parties. Here is an excerpt:

"As I recall this I feel an icy shiver down my spine. I tell you, such a great man lived, he gave us everything. We never want for bread, we wear woolen overcoats, we educate our children. Without Stalin people would have died of hunger. We owe our good health to him. When he caught fish, he shared them. People were shy, but befo e they could utter a word, he would say: Take them and eat."

I do not understand how local people who had made a living from the river from time immemorial could die for want of fish. But they wrote it. And they are still writing it.

With the snow waist high the pantheon could not be approached either on foot or by vehicle. The track was invisible. We, along with the local forester, were probably the first and last visitors to the pantheon that entire winter. The empty, massive building with its broken windows stood absurd and lifeless in this remote corner of Russia. People coming here by river on their own or official business do, incidentally, call in. These are inscriptions that they have left: "We honor and remember," "We died with his name on our lips," "Russia is without a master!"

All right, everything is not so simple. Even today some people still yearn for an imperious, firm hand. They are not isolated individuals. However, right by the entrance someone has scrawled "A Lesson to Tyrants" the whole length of the deserted, solid wall. It would be a good idea to add your own contribution to that inscription. No one is able to say yet what fate has in store for this memorial. There is a proposal from the Far North Agricultural Scientific Research Institute that it be used as a hothouse. People in Kureyka and Igarka are saying that it should be turned into a museum dedicated to past revolutionaries or the victims of the personality cult condemned under Article 58. But where do you find the names or find out precisely how many of them there were in the north? We do not have an answer....

A Ural—a geological survey expedition vehicle—dragged us out of the mud toward evening. I got into the cross-country vehicle and was at the river bank an hour later. At one time a bridge for the transpolar railroad lay across the Sukharika narrows here, and locomotives ran across it. The concrete piers in the river had lain inert for 3 decades. And there to the left of the river lay the camp built in 1948. The rickety watchtower, barbed wire, and dilapidated wooden huts still standing as reminders of the life and times then. It was the end of April, but it would clearly be a while yet before spring came to these parts. It was as cold and bleak as winter. I stood silent for a minute or a little longer. I then strode off to the car without looking back. We left the railroad track immediately after Sukharikha. The remains of the sleepers and the rails could still be seen for a while, but then our paths finally diverged. Farewell, "Stalinka."

In Place of a Postscript [subhead]

But it was not farewell. On my return from the assignment, I saw the chilling film by the director Sergey Miroshnichenko entitled "And the Past Seems a Dream." It contains many shots that make you want to recoil into your seat and say "enough!" How did we all live then, and why did all this happen? People from the north speak from the screen about those years and the suffering that was their lot.

The film presents yet another life story. The life of a young poet, one of the creators of the prewar children's book "We Come From Igarka," which was praised, incidentally, by Gorkiy and Stepan Perevalov. In 1942 he and another 300 humanities students accused of organizing an attempt on the life of the leader were sent to those regions where no prisoner ever saw a pencil or paper, let alone books.

On the 50th anniversary of the book's first publication, its authors, now old, assembled on a landing stage on the Yenisey and traveled by river to the city of their childhood. It was planned to make the film gentle and lyrical here, since everything was bound up with childhood. It turned out otherwise, however. That first book contained children's descriptions of nature, the river, and beautiful deer. But there was not a word about the special resettlement, life in the camp huts, people suddenly disappearing at night, or the dull sound of distant executions taking place in Medvezhye Gully. Not a word. Fifty years on they recall how they were herded under escort, how cold it was in the huts, in each corner of which three or four families would be huddled. How they lived and hoped that the worst was already behind them, already in the past. And how their belief was mistaken. The most tragic thing in this honest documentary shot by Krasnoyarsk cameramen is that you suddenly realize that even 50 years on these people have not been able to free themselves from the burden of the past, have not been able to hold their heads up; and every time they have to talk to the camera about the prisoners, the arrests, the executions, they all involuntarily lower their

voices and look around. No, the past is not a dream, not even an agonizing dream. The past is still around us, and it will not be so easy for us all to rid ourselves of it.

Military

Protection of National Borders 'Restructured'

PM3105134788 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 27 May 88 p 4

[Report by own correspondent V. Vishnevskiy under the rubric "Check: Special Issue Devoted to the 70th Anniversary of the Border Troops": "Meeting Place—the Border"]

[Text] Red Banner Transbaykal Border District—The transporter picked up speed along the runway at Chita airport. A sharp turn and then it set course for the south. En route to the border detachment, they pointed out a nearby hill to us. "Do you see it? That's China."

But I had begun to notice something else. Strange rumors were rife. Rumors to the effect that the border guards had opened the gates of the "system" (that is their name for the fixed barrier) and are saying to local residents: Fish to your heart's content, make use of the land. It is all yours, as far as the border! But the inhabitants held a meeting and decided: The gates must be closed!

The rumors were accompanied by a strange phrase—the "democratization of the borders." That sounds right these days. But again there are questions. What does it mean? Our border is under lock and key. That is what the song says. If democratization takes place, what will happen to the zone?

My conversation with Major General V.A. Gubenko, commander of the Red Banner Transbaykal Border District, began with a definition of terms.

"I have to warn you against an incorrect understanding of certain things," Valeriy Aleksandrovich said. "In the context of the democratization of society the protection of the state border is also being restructured. But the point of the restructuring to not to 'erode' the border or slacken its defense. Quite the contrary, it is a question of improving the border guards' work.

"I would remind you that the definition of the limits of the border zone and the procedure for granting access to the state boundary line have been and still are within the competence of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the union republic Councils of Ministers. We border guards have no right to revoke or revise them. What used to be the trend in these decisions? An arbitrary one, based on administrative and command methods. Was it easy for us, for example, 'not to allow' local inhabitants to enter lands where from time immemorial they had fished or allowed their animals to graze? Of course not. In carrying out that instruction, we often lost contact with the local population.

"The situation is changing now. Gradually the restrictions are being lifted. I would emphasize the word gradually. This is not a short-term campaign but a long-term program of strengthening the border with the help of the local population."

From the detachment we set off along the border. It ran like a wave along the crest of the hills. The first outpost we met was the one named for Kozlov. In August 1945 the name of Private First Class Vitaliy Kozlov was known in every outpost. In the pursuit of a Japanese warrior gang the border guards ran into unexpected opposition. They attacked. In the heat of battle Vitaliy became separated from his men. He was surrounded. Then they tortured him. But the young border guard remained loyal to his oath.

Captain Vladimir Kuzma, chief of the outpost, scarcely had time to introduce us to his assistants when an alarm signal sounded. The alert group was to return and we would find out who had caused the problem this time. Wild animals or birds are usually to blame.

"Valeriy Aleksandrovich, the Soviet-Chinese border has known different times, including some uneasy ones. But in the Lenin room at one border post I noticed something. It is from a border guard report in 1926: "...Russian refugees are still being recruited into the Zhang Zuo-ling army. Horse rustling has become more frequent. A gang of horse rustlers has arrived in the Chinese abkaleyka [not further identified]. Small groups of saboteurs are being sent into Russia...." That was 60 years ago. What about 20 years ago? Of course, the situation has changed radically. Now the two great neighbors have new contacts and prospects. That is pleasing. But what worries do you have? Do border violations still occur?

"Most often they are related to agricultural activity. For example, when our neighbors are looking for lost animals and end up in our territory. People also cross over in search of a better life."

I didn't find out the cause of the alarm: Whether it was a lark from the steppes, a bustard, or a more serious form of border violator. Lieutenant Colonel L. Labunskiy, with whom I had arranged to travel to a remote border post, came for me.

Yes, everything is out of the ordinary here. After all, we are behind the "system." Just the day before, the sovkhoz director had drawn up a list of people to whom passes were to be issued at the border post so they could plow an area of land in the fertile flood plain. Heaven forbid that the machine operator or someone falls sick—that means making up another list....

We arrived toward evening. The outpost was named for Private First Class Yakov Perfishin, who died a hero's death in the fighting against the Japanese. That was in

August 1945, too. Now people here are using the word "democratization." What does it mean to them here? Rural soviet chairman I. Makarov sums up our conversations:

"Meetings were held and it was decided not to remove the 'system.' It stops the livestock from straying and protects them against foreign foot-and-mouth disease. And I am afraid for the children. They aren't used to water, and the Argun River is here. But the gates are necessary. Let them stay open during the day. Those who want to walk through can report in by telephone: 'This is Ivanov, I am coming through, I will be returning at such and such a time.' They carry their documents with them. It provides a form of discipline.

"Now a mention of mass recreation. We choose a few locals to stand guard. We set up a place for hunting or bathing. There's far less paperwork and fuss that way. People are quite sensible without all that.

"Valeriy Aleksandrovich, people have funny ideas about our border, to put it mildly. They say that it is a barbed wire fence which the authorities use to keep the Soviet people away from the temptations of the 'free' world. Remove it and they will flee.

"The people have more common sense that the authors of such 'stories' imagine. It was pointed out long ago that trust brings out a man's best qualities and makes him a real master of his own land. And that is the most important thing, ultimately."

Well-attended meetings have been held not just here but everywhere. The people put forward a host of valuable ideas. Now they must develop an integrated concept of the protection of the state border under new conditions.

Draftees Offered Intensive Russian Program

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[Article by Prof R. Abuzyarov, head of the Russian language methodology department at the A.S. Pushkin Uralsk Teacher Training Institute: "'I Am Writing in Russian....' Citing Experience of Preparing Draftees for Military Service"]

[Text] At the rural club of the Tair Zharokov state farm, a competition for draftees was under way to determine who had the best knowledge of general military regulations, poems and stories about military service, and marching songs.... There was only one thing unusual about this event. The absolute majority of participants knew practically no Russian as recently as a month ago. That is what K. Utegenova, a student teacher at our department, wrote down in her diary about one of the draftees: "Does not understand spoken Russian, cannot put together a sentence, reads in syllables with great difficulty." This was also more or less true of the other draftees on first acquaintance. And now, a month later, they delivered whole texts relatively clearly, readily answered questions from judges—teachers, rayon military commissariat officials, and military leaders—and carried out their orders.

There is just one thing to be added to the account about this competition, which, incidentally, took place prior to the fall draft. When it ended, most of those who had been invited to the club as guests expressed views which could be summed up in the sentence: "If I had not seen it for myself, I never would have believed it...."

At first glance it really seems incredible. Young men who had a solid 10 years of Russian instruction at school and yet had not mastered the language, began speaking it tolerably well virtually before our eyes. It was possible to chat with them freely, to have a conversation. Yet there is nothing unusual or mysterious about this at all. Pupils who learn Russian in the national schools do not consolidate their knowledge and skills through regular conversational practice because communication in the villages (we are talking about remote villages in far-flung parts of our oblast) takes place exclusively in the mother tongue. Furthermore, there is the quality of the teaching itself which, unfortunately, leaves much to be desired. Yet it is sufficient to give these guys a 1-month intensive course in Russian and teach them the military jargon and you get completely different results. This has been confirmed more than once in practice. The draftees at the Dzhanybekskiy Rayon sovkhoz attended one such course. Similar courses have been held in a number of other places.

The methodology of the course was elaborated by the staff of a laboratory for indigenous-nationality draftees' language training problems set up by volunteers at our department. It is based on research carried out by the Bulgarian doctor G. Lozanov and the Soviet education specialists I. Shekhter and G. Kitaygorodskaya. The essence, briefly speaking, consists in actively involving the draftees in an intensive process of practical language activity. Emphasis is placed on a maximum activation of the students' internal reserves, using suggestibility, the organization of positive emotions, and the combination of rational and emotional factors in memorizing words and phrases, objects and actions.

The application of the intensive teaching method is, figuratively speaking, a continuous game played by the students under the teacher's guidance. It begins with simple chanting and repetition after the teacher of words, expressions, gestures, mimicry, and physical actions accompanied by speech. As their vocabulary increases, the students learn to communicate with each other. They answer very simple questions, relate details of their biography, and so forth. The lessons last 5-6 hours per day, and there are games and musical activities during the breaks.

Experience shows that after only 7 or 10 days, students are ready to move from reproductive speech (repetition of ready-made phrases and communication by means of

dialogues prepared in advance) to productive speech (independently constructed sentences, replies to questions, and the discussion of specific facts or phenomena such as television items on international topics after watching a "Vremya" newscast). At that point, intensive training to master the military vocabulary begins, and reporting to the commander and orderly or sentry duties are rehearsed.

It must be noted that the youngsters eagerly engage in all these activities. Naturally, a great deal depends on the teacher, on how well he or she has mastered the methodology of intensive training, and to what extent he or she succeeds in making the lesson attractive and interesting.

And so the teaching process amounts to daily intensive practice of conversational language during which the students are constantly communicating with each other and with their teacher. And what else? Visits to local monuments and neighborhood sights and excursions during which communication also takes place in Russian. Incidentally, it has emerged that this part of the program is of great importance for the draftees. The point is that many of them are shepherds, unskilled laborers, or herdsmen who have practically never left their village, never visited a museum. A visit, for instance, to the Manshuk Mametova Museum or the monuments of Uralsk city makes a deep impression on them. Their acquaintance with the heroes of the past will unquestionably leave a deep mark on their memory and will have a favorable effect on the results of their military service.

Nonetheless, the intensive military and language preparation courses for draftees held in September did not entirely satisfy us. Despite extensive explanatory work (for instance I myself have addressed public education organ and military commissariat officials on more than one occasion), it was possible to organize courses in only 6 (of 14 planned) settlements, and in 4 of these the courses began a week late after insistent pleas to local party and soviet organs on the part of the laboratory staff. The reason is that farm managers, despite an instruction to this effect, have failed to assemble the draftees. As a result, only around 60 draftees completed the courses on this occasion—only a small proportion of those who need to improve their knowledge of Russian.

It has proved possible to considerably improve the situation in time for the spring draft. Material about the results of the fall courses broadcast on local radio and television; meetings at the party obkom; participation in the preparatory work by A. Shlyakhtin, chief of the obkom's sector for national relations, and A. Utebayeva, inspector from the oblast public education department; and thorough preparation of Russian language teachers drawn from schools have all helped to improve the organization of the courses. They were held in 31 population centers and attended by more than 300 draftees.

I would like to emphasize that over the past 6 months the attitude of farm managers and public education and military commissariat officials to the courses themselves has changed very considerably. Having been persuaded of the potential of these courses, many of them are now helping us practically and taking a lively interest in the progress of the courses and the young villagers' study successes. And what is more, many farm managers, following the example of Tasbulat Gabdulovich Shukeyev, director of the Tair Zharokov sovkhoz, have not only fully exempted the draftees from work during the period of the courses but have paid them their average monthly wages.

Does that mean that all problems have been resolved? By no means! One of the problems is that premises and teaching aids are needed to hold the courses. So far the courses have to be held wherever possible—the manager's office, Red Corners, at schools' military education classrooms when there is a "gap" between lessons of initial military training for schoolchildren. As for teaching aids, we so far only have a limited number of copies of the textbook which we ourselves have written. So far there is no methodological manual, no special slide films, records, or tape recordings which are badly needed.

The second problem is more serious. Practice has shown that the best results in mastering the Russian language have been achieved in the groups which are taught by our staff. That is natural. The department's teaching staff and postgraduate students who are members of the laboratory run by volunteers have mastered the method of intensive tuition. However, the laboratory naturally cannot take on the organization of courses on the scale of the whole oblast. I must repeat that it has been set up on a voluntary basis. And everything that has been done by the teaching staff and postgraduate students has been done exclusively on the basis of their enthusiasm. We cannot even pay our staff their expenses for travel and accommodation in hotels or private apartments at the places where the courses are being held. And spending a month away from home at one's own expense is a costly affair, especially for postgraduate students.

I am convinced that if these questions were resolved in one way or another, the preparation of draftees for service could be organized much more effectively. So far I can see only one way of improving this work, namely by means of the systematic mastering of the method of intensive tuition by school and rural vocational technical school Russian language teachers. It is obvious that this matter must be taken in hand by public education organs. We, for our part, are already doing our bit. Laboratory staff are holding methodological training sessions for teachers in rural areas. The department has sent one copy of the methodological textbook which explains the fundamental guidelines of the intensive tuition course to every school.

Incidentally, schools have expressed interest in this book and are asking for 20-30 copies each so that the pupils themselves can also use it. Alas, the oblast's publishing base does not make it possible to satisfy this demand.

As you can see, there are more than enough problems as regards improved Russian language study by indigenous-nationality draftees using the new method. This is probably also the reason why this method is so far not being used beyond the confines of our oblast (with the exception of individual schools in Tajikistan). However, it seems to me that all these problems are not all that complex and their solution does not really require major expense. What is needed is the interested participation in this unquestionably important matter of organs and organizations.

A few months ago the Southern Group of Forces received a letter from Berik Mukhanbetkaliyev, one of the youngsters who attended the intensive training course prior to the fall draft. "I am writing in Russian," he begins his letter. He then relates details about his service as a tankman and about his comrades in arms. He writes that thanks to his knowledge of Russian he is successfully mastering his military speciality. Many more such letters and postcards have since arrived from other servicemen. Also in Russian. They are the best reward the laboratory staff could wish for.

Military Leaders Sign Retired General's Obituary

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[Obituary of Colonel General P.B. Dankevich]

[Excerpts] Colonel General Pavel Borisovich Dankevich, retired, participant in the Great Patriotic War, has died after a long and serious illness. He devoted his entire conscious life to the cause of defending the socialist motherland and selflessly serving the Soviet people and the Communist Party, which he joined in 1941.

P.B. Dankevich was born in the city of Ostrogozhsk, Voronezh Oblast, 3 October 1918. [passage omitted]

From 1961 through 1974 he served in the Strategic Rocket Forces and for more than 10 years was deputy commander in chief of the Rocket Forces for combat training. [passage omitted]

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